



THE YORKSHIRE
ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY

FOUNDED 1863

INCORPORATED 1893

RECORD SERIES

VOL. CIII

FOR THE YEAR 1940

YORK
CIVIC RECORDS

VOL. II

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and the York Archæological Society*

PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY

1941

Printed by
THE WEST YORKSHIRE PRINTING CO. LIMITED,
WAKEFIELD.

YORK CIVIC RECORDS

VOL. II

INTRODUCTION.

This second volume of York Civic Records contains documents from House Books No. VI, VII, VIII and IX and dates from 1487 to 1504. The greater part of the contents of the House Books has been given, the only documents omitted being those of a formal nature or such as are of no historic value. No one can accuse these Books of being dull, the variety and living interest in them presents all sides of the life of York.

In this volume are documents of great interest and value in connection with the invasion of Lambert Symnel who was supported by the Earl of Lincoln and Lord Lovel. Rumours of what was coming is found in the confession of James Taite (p. 3). He tells how he met in Doncaster seven men on horseback leading a white horse, which he recognized as belonging to the Earl of Lincoln and from these men he learnt that trouble was brewing. The Mayor immediately informed the King and the Earl of Northumberland. York was in no condition to defend itself, the castle having been dismantled by Richard III and the walls being dilapidated. On June 8 the Earl of Northumberland sends word that the rebels have landed at Furness. The Mayor and Council with the whole of the Commonalty on the same day met in the Guildhall and then and there "agreed, either to other, holding up their hands that they would keep this city with their bodies and goods to the uttermost of their power." The same day Lambert Symnel reached Masham and from there, using royal style, sent a letter to the Mayor asking to be allowed to enter York for rest and good being "greatly wearied and laboured." An answer was returned to the effect that the people of York would not allow the rebels to approach the city; three of the Chamberlains carried this answer. On Saturday, June 9, the Chamberlains returned with the welcome news that no attempt would be made against York. Sunday, June 10, Trinity Sunday, the Earl of Northumberland and Lord Clifford with their forces entered York and remained until Tuesday leaving the city at 11 a.m. Immediately after they had gone the Lords Scrope of Bolton and Upsall constrained it is said by their men made an assault on Bootham Bar; the citizens valiantly resisted and they were put to flight. The Earl of Northumberland had not gone far and hearing of the assault he came back to the city and remained until Thursday. On Saturday came the defeat of the rebels at the battle of Newark.

On July 30 King Henry paid his second visit to York (p. 27).

York came well out of this ordeal; it had shewn its loyalty to the King and Henry recognized this, though not trusting in it

over much. The House Books give a full account of this rising; it is well written up; you feel that the city authorities had nothing to hide.

It is different in the case of the rising of the Commons in 1489. York was far more seriously affected in this insurrection than in the earlier one, but little mention of it is made in the York books. If the House Books were the only source of our knowledge we should know very little about it. There is no doubt but that as regards such events the accounts we have in the House Books were entered up a good deal later than the time when they happened and that any incriminating matter was left out. There was a great deal more to tell about the rising of the Commons and their behaviour in York but it was not entered into the official City Books. On 28 April, 1489 Thomas Fisher, a taylor, coming, as he said, in all goodly haste from Thirsk told the Mayor that there had been an affray and "my Lord of Northumberland taken and hurt by certain commons there." (p. 45). The cause of this rising was the attempt to exact the subsidy which had been voted for the Breton War and the Earl of Northumberland was murdered by "yeomen and husbandmen of the North Riding."¹ The city of York was once again in danger. On April 29 the Mayor gave orders that no Alderman or Councillor should leave the city, three "sharp" men were sent out to spy out the intentions of the Commons and news of what had happened was sent to the King. Now darkness falls. We learn from other sources that Fishergate Bar was stormed by the Commons who entered the City and became its virtual masters, the Mayor and Council only acting by their sufferance. The taking of York seems to have happened about May 1 and the rebels to have remained in possession until May 17. On May 3 Sir Marmaduke Constable, Sheriff of Yorkshire, was allowed with nine others to enter the City to transact some official business at the Castle. On May 4 the Mayor received a letter from Lord Clifford at Skipton offering to come to the city to discuss the situation with the authorities and the Council agreed to receive Lord Clifford with a hundred men, to remain here for a day and a night or more if the Commons will assent and agree to the same, but the Commons refused. On May 8, the Mayor received a message from Sir Marmaduke Constable that he had summoned divers knights, esquires and other gentlemen to come to York in order to subdue the King's rebels. Both Mayor and Council and the Commons refused to allow the high sheriff to enter the City. In the case of Lord Clifford and of Sir Marmaduke Constable both Council and Commons give as their excuse that they are bound in loyalty to keep the City for the King. On May 17 Sir John Egremond, one of the rebel leaders, sent to the Mayor and Aldermen who were meeting in the Church of All Saints Pavement asking for 20 men with horses to go with certain of the Commons into Richmondshire, adding that they should not fail in this as

¹ Reid; "*King's Council in the North*," p. 76.

they would answer at their peril. The Mayor summoned the rest of the Council and they decided that "for so much as he (Egremond) had the rule and his people here" they had no choice in the matter, fearing lest he should pillage the City. It seems probable that Egremond went with them and York was freed from mob rule. Directly Egremond left, fearing lest he might return shortly, the Council hastily armed the citizens, buying up the bows and arrows from the bowers and fletchers. It has been stated that the Mayor¹ joined the rebels in this rising. If this had been the case he would not have been allowed to continue in the Mayoralty. He was in a very difficult position and had to act as he did to save the City from pillage. The remains of Fishergate Bar to-day are relics of this unhappy time for York. The Bar was blocked up until the 19th century and a postern gate was made by Fishergate Tower to admit persons into that part of the city (p. 172).

These first two printed volumes of the House Books reveal that Mayoral elections were often a source of disturbance in York. Before the reign of Edward IV the Mayor was elected by the body of the citizens from two or three of the Aldermen nominated by the retiring Mayor. Edward IV changed this. He placed the organization of the voting in the hands of the searchers of the different crafts who were to summons all the workers to the Guildhall, who nominated two Aldermen whose names were presented in writing to the Mayor, Aldermen and Council who selected one.² When the two aldermen nominated happened to be rivals there was a possibility of variance. This was the case in 1482 when two strong men and rivals, Thomas Wrangwish and Richard York, were selected. Rivalry ran so high that the King ordered the outgoing Mayor Robert Amyas to continue in office for a while.³ In 1489 it looked once more as though there would be a stormy election day. The Mayor told the searchers of the crafts that disturbances were threatened and they did in fact take place. The matter came to the notice of the King who directed that the offenders should be punished. The murder of the Earl of Northumberland and the rising of the Commons prevented anything further from being done for the moment but on 25 May the Council with the assent of the Commonalty decided to ask the King for three aldermen to be nominated instead of two, hoping in that way to lessen the chance of disturbance. The result of this was that on 12 December 1489 a new order of election of Mayor was issued by the King.⁴ This is of great interest and I give here the substance of the document.

¹ Reid ; "*King's Council in the North*," p. 76. Dr. Reid gives as her authority for this statement "*Materials for the History of Henry VII*, Rolls Series, vol. II, pp. 447-8, but there is no mention there of the Mayor of York joining the rebels.

² *York Memorandum Book*, vol. II, p. viii and note.

³ *York Civic Records*, vol. I, pp. 48-9.

⁴ *Calendar of Patent Rolls*, 1485-94, p. 297.

Grant to the Mayor and citizens of York on surrender of their letters patent dated 20 December 13 Edward IV and to put an end to dissensions that the election of a Mayor shall be made in form following—. The existing Mayor shall on the eve of St. Maur, viz. 14 January, summon all the searchers of every mystery to warn all the artificers of their mystery to appear personally in the Guildhall on the next day for the election of a Mayor. The artificers so met shall elect three Aldermen, no one of whom has been twice Mayor or once Mayor within six years. These three names shall be presented in writing by the Sheriffs and the common clerk of the city or any two of them to the Mayor, Aldermen and Council of the Mayors chamber, which done, the said Sheriffs and clerk or two of them shall go to a fit spot to be appointed by the Mayor, Aldermen and Council, and the Mayor, and every Alderman and every other member of the Council shall say secretly to the said Sheriffs and clerk or two of them, which of the then nominated Aldermen he wishes to have as Mayor, and the common clerk, in view of the Sheriffs or one of them shall make pricks or marks over the name as the electors give their votes; and he over whose name are the greatest number of pricks or marks shall be declared by the Sheriffs and clerk or two of them to be Mayor from the feast of St. Blaise following for one year. If the votes are equal the Mayor shall select the one he wishes to have. If the Mayor so elected die or leave or be dismissed from office then the second of the three Aldermen elected as aforesaid shall be elected Mayor for the rest of the year, or the other one at the discretion of the twelve Aldermen and Council. The Mayor so elected shall remain in authority until the feast of St. Blaise following, and on that day at about ten o'clock before mid-day in the Guildhall he who is newly declared and elected to be Mayor shall take the usual oath before all the citizens then present and that done shall be Mayor. Afterwards the said Aldermen and citizens there present shall swear to be aiding and supporting to him during his mayoralty in all that pertains to his office concerning the honor and utility and prosperity of the city. If any citizen attempt anything by word or deed against the form of this election he shall forfeit by that all his liberties and franchises in the said city and further be punished at the discretion of the Mayor and pay 10£ for the common utility of the city, if his goods and means permit, if not, then according to his means as estimated at the discretion of the Mayor, Aldermen and Council.

In 1490 the election took place according to the new rule and was an orderly one, Sir Richard Tunstall and Richard Cholmely being present on behalf of the King. In 1504 the Commons held up the election of the new Mayor until a redress of grievances was promised, but this was not a case of election disturbance.

In 1518 it was directed that four Aldermen should be nominated instead of three, one of whom was to be elected as Mayor.

The atmosphere throughout this volume is one of unrest; murders, fights in the city, assaults, disturbances are frequent. An ex-mayor is among the murdered (p. 15) and a famous Minster Master Mason, William Hyndley, is accused of committing a murder (p. 77). The mass of the citizens have become fearful lest they should be deprived of their common lands; hence arise disputes with the Minster which led to hedge and gate breaking. In March 1490-91 (p. 65) the Mayor receives a letter from the King about crime and disorder in York. "Murders, felonies, riots and other grievous offences have been committed within the franchises of York, of which you are our Lieutenant." He warns the Mayor that if he does not take steps to maintain good rule the Earl of Surrey has instructions to call the Mayor before him. An answer to the King's letter was sent in April and in it is the extraordinary claim, "that within 13 years last past was neither murder nor riot committed in this city of York."

In 1494 (p. 108) during a dispute between the City and the Vicars of the Minster about common land at Tanghall the searchers of the crafts refused to follow instructions given by the Mayor and Council. The Mayor unwisely ordered the door keeper to shut the door of the Guildhall and not allow the searchers to leave until he had harangued them. The searchers thrust the door keeper aside and left the Hall using unseemly language. In the street outside some of them said that if any were imprisoned about this matter the rest would go and get them out. This led to the Mayor, Recorder and two Aldermen being summoned before the King at Greenwich. The King, "speaking with his own mouth," reminded them of their inherited authority and power; they must use this power. "Sirs, ye be loth, I well know that others should bear rule within your franchise, but I cannot see my city fall into utter ruin and decay owing to your lack of rule, and, if necessary, I will put in other rulers."

The volume ends with a serious riot of 3,000 of the Commons who used the occasion of a mayoral election to make certain demands in writing and refused to proceed with the election until the Mayor has signed a paper granting "all their askings and desirings" (p. 192). Some of the rioters are sent to London and the last document in this volume is a letter to the searchers of the crafts reporting how they are getting on.

Once again I beg to thank the Lord Mayor and Corporation of York for their help towards the publication of the City's records. I also wish to express my gratitude to the Town Clerk (Mr. T. C. Benfield) for his invariable kindness and readiness to assist in every way.

ANGELO RAINE.

YORK CIVIC RECORDS.

THE HOUSE BOOKS, VOL. II.

Book VI. *fo.* 56b. **Letter testimonial from the Mayor on behalf of Thomas Wandesford, gentleman.**

January (1486-7).

The same Thomas haith bee and is emongs us of good and honest conversacion and at na tyme herebefore eny riots or othre things within the same Citie or othre place, of our knowlege, haith attempted contrarie to the peax or lawes of our souerain lord the king.

fo. 57b. **Letter from the Recorder about the Fee-Farm.¹**

Undated. *Present*—William Chimney, Mayor, 5 of the xii, 1 Sheriff, 5 of the xxiv.

For so moch as it is now undoubted that we have past lettres patentes, wherby the late Sheriffs shall at the begynnyng of the terme have allowed unto theyme lx^{li}, except seventene pounds or ther aboute, dewe after the rate before the testie² of the saide lettres patentes, and also we shall undoubtedly have a privey seal for the discharge of the same as Maister John Harington can enforme you, which haith be with the King in the same behalve occupied this vj days in the Court ther with myne avice for so moch as I myght not be ther myself, I avice you in eny wise to see that the saide lx^{li} be paid to the Chamberleyns furthwith, soo that it may appeir to the Commoners at ther accompts how graciously the Kyng is disposid to the Citie, which woll pleas his grace, I doubt not, as this berer can more largeley shew unto you, unto whome I woll ye woll yeve credence. by Godes grace, who persewe you. From London the vth day of Januarie.

fo. 59b. **Riotous Behaviour of the Vicars of the Minster.**

Undated. *Present*—William Chimney, Mayor, 6 of the xii, 2 Sheriffs, 8 of the xxiv.

It is thought in counsell taken by the saide Maire, Aldermen, Shireffs and Common Counesellours of the Citie of York that wher certain Vicars of the church of York with othre lately assembled riotously to the nowmbre of xxx personnes or mor within the said Citie, and therupon walking through the Citie by nyght

¹ See *York Civic Records*, vol. I, p. 178.

² *Teste*; the final clause in a royal writ naming the person who authorizes the affixing of the king's seal. *N.E.D.*

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hurt certaine personnes of the same Citie; and also wher certain personnes of the clouse of York assembled yeme in grete nowmbre in maner of warre, and therupon commyng into the Citie shot many arrows ayenst the Sheriffs and ther foulks commyng with them for the conservacion of the peax, and hurt George Essop and othre waiting of the saide Shiriffs, emongs othre thing shuld be taken as a common matier of the saide Citie for to be examined and concludid; and that Roger Laton, the wif of Thomas Rich, with othre of the saide Citie fyndyng theme grevid in this behalve shal have warnyng to prepare ther particuler compleints, and the same show unto my lord of Northumbreland and his Counsell by this too take such direcon as shalbe thought moost convenient.

fo. 60.

The Aldermanship of William Todd.

31 January (1486-7). *Present*—William Chimney Mayor, Thomas Asper, deputy Recorder, 8 of the xii (none of the xxiv).

Assembled in counesell after comunicacion had of Thomas Wrangwish and John Harpour¹ at the instant labour and desier of my lord of Northumbreland shewed unto theyme by the mouth of Sir William Gascoigne in open counesell ther being ye personnes here writtin, and Sir Hugh Haistings, Thomas Middilton and Edmand Thwaits, to abide the ruell and ordinaunce, arbitrament and jugement of my saide lorde in and of almaner of accions, debats, demaunds, trespasses and quarells hanging eny wise betwixt theyme or either of theyme and William Tod; the said Sir William promitting that the saide William shuld abyde the same, concludid that ye said William Todd by the avoidaunce of the rowme of eny Aldreman be in deid an Aldreman and to be furthwith reputid and taken in evere behalve; and therupon incontinent Thomas Scotton wolling for diveres causes leve his rowme desiered to be exonerate of the same his rowme, and in deid ther surrendered in the same, which was ther admitted, wherby immediately the said William Todd was Aldreman of the Citie as in like wise he was in tyme past.

fo. 63.

The new Mayor and Council take their oaths.

16 February 2 Henry VII (1486-7).

William Todd, Maior, assembled in the Common Hall with certain his breder Aldermen, Shiriffs and Common Counsellours then being present the hole Commonaltie after the auncient custome usid in the saide Citie, the Aldermen and Counsellours forsaide weyre callid by name as hereafter ensuyth besides the serchours of every craft, which also was callid.

Names follow. 12 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 16 Counsellours.

¹ See *York Civic Records*, vol. I, pp. 153, 155, 170.

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After the Maior, Aldermen, Counsellours and other forsaide had taken ther theyre oth accustomed the Commons presented unto the saide Maior a bill of supplicacon wherof the tenour ensuyth; and therupon the same red, John Hastings, squier at the mase, John Strangwish, swerd berer, John Fery, Thomas Massingham, John Sponer and John Nicolson, servants at the mase, were sworne in forme accustomed.

fo. 68.

An unfranchised Glasier.

2 March (1486-7).

William Graenburgh . . . haith occupied within the Citie as a fraunchest man in his craft of glasier, not being fraunchest, shalbe pardoned at the instance of my Lord of Northumberland. He shalbe furthwith admittid a fraunchest man, paying for the same . . . xx^s, and over that pay xx^s equally to be divided to the Citie and to the craft of glasiers.

fo. 72b.

A good character.

Declaration of the good character of Elizabeth Ricardby, wife of Thomas Panyerman of Filey.

. . . the said Elizabeth at all tymes was reputed an honest madyn, clene of body, true of hands and tong, and in all things appertigneyng to hur womanhode a madyn, of honest conversation, and good disposicion, never noted of any cryme or other thing sinister.

fo. 73.

Talk about the Earl of Lincoln.

Thappeching of James Taite and his confession made upon the same. 31 May, 2 Henry VII (1487).

Master Thomas Karlill personally appering before William Todde, Maior of the Citie of Yorke, Sir Robt Rither, Sheriff of the Shire ther, Thomas Aspar, Recordour deputie, etc., assembled in counsell the last day of May deliverd unto the said Maior a bill writyn with thand of the said Master Thomas Karlill bering the tenour ensuyng.—James Taite said to Master Karlill and Sir William Artas, parson of saynt Elyn at the Walls, and to Sir George Mede and to John Lokyrmose, that therle of Lincoln wold giff the King's grace a brekefast as it was enfourmed hyme by the servaunt of the said Erls, and also that Sir Thomas Malleverey wold take his part with many other moo; and when the King was at York that the Erle afforsaid wald have goone over the walls to Robyn¹ of Redesdall to take his part. Thies words was said the xxxth day of Marche the ij yere of King Herry the vij to me

¹ Robin of Redesdale. See *Winestead and its Lords*, by N. J. Miller, pp. 86-93, and *Proceedings of the Archaeological Institute*, 1846, which contains a paper on Lambert Symnell's rebellion, by Robert Davies, F.S.A.

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the said Thomas Karlill and to the witnesse afforsaid at iiij of the klok at afternowne within his oune place in the said parissing of Saint Elyn of York. Wherupon the said James called personally to awnswer to the contentes of the same desirid to have a clerke to hyme assigned to write what he wold say in that partye as well concernyng suche things as he hard as his langage uttred unto the said Maister Thomas in that behalve, which he had assigned to hyme. And thereupon the said James on the departour of the said Maier, Aldremen and Comune Counsaill from the Counsaill Chambre, in his proper person appered before theme, and to the said Maier delyvered a bille of his answere signed with his hand bering the tenour hereafter wrytyn :—I James Tayte rade to Retford, and upon our Lady day last past as I come homeward in Doncastre, I hit with vij horsez of straungers, and ther was amongs them a white horse led, shewing me by a merchaunt (73b) servant that it was that was in saddell of that horse gold and silver; than I herd that said soo, and askid hyme fro whynce he come, and he said, froo London; than another of the same merchaunt men askid me, wheder ther was any deth¹ within the Citie or not, and I said, nay; than I shewed unto hyme that I shuld knowe oone of the company by his horsse; he asking me where and howe I shuld knowe this horsse, and I said agane that I knewe hyme in York the last tyme the Kynges good grace was ther, for I trowe that he was my Lorde of Lincolne hobye,² for with me was he loged; than this man shewyng to hyme my saying, he com bak unto me and askid me howe I fore, and askid me where I knewe this horsse, and I said he was my Lord of Lincolnes, and he bad me say the truthe; and I wist well than that by that same watch word he was my Lord of Lincolne horssen, and tha, I asked hyme, howe my Lord of Lincoln fore, and askid hyme where he was, and he told me as far furth as he culd undrestand that he was departid from the Kinges grace; and I askid hyme, wheder to the see or to the lond, and he said, I trowe he nede not goo to the see for he hath frendes enogh upon the land, and I shewed unto hyme agane that my Lord had many good frendes in this cuntree as far furth as I knew, and I said that bicause have more undrestanding of his comunicacion. Then he shewing unto me, thowe shall see not long too, that John of Lincoln shall geve theme all a brekefast that oweth hyme noo luff nor favour; I asking hyme that my Lord of Northumberland and he stood in condicion, he said agane he doth bot litill for as therfor we sett litill by hyme, for thou shall here tell that right good gentlemen shall take my Lordes part. Can ye oght tell me howe farre I have to Sir Thomas Mallevery place for we must have hyme writing or elles send it hyme? Then I askid hyme if he wold to York, and he said, nay,

¹ Deth in the city; plague or fever.

² Hobye; Hobby; a middle sized horse, a pony. *N.E.D.*

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I must to Hull and if I come to York I will call upon you. I come than to Wentbrig to an in, and spird for thiez merchaunts that wold ride forward to York, and the good man of the house¹ told me that they were sleping in their beddes and thiddre I come twice to spir (*fo.* 74) after theme, and I desired to hostler for to tell me where he was that rode of the hoby, and had not he bene I had there tarid long; than I departid from hyme, and than I met betwix Darynton and Wentbrig a man that was bowne to the servaunt of my Lord of Lincolne that lay at Wentbrig in his bed and I toke knowlage² of that same man for he was somtyme of his company, for he said he had sent for hyme in grete hast with a man that was with hyme hired for to goo for hyme, and I come streght to York; then thies same merchauntes of London come unto York, and a servaunt of theires shewed me that they shuld mete the Priour of Tynmouthe at the signe of the boore³ in York; and I come to Master Karlill shewing unto hyme all manre of thinges that I had hard as afforsaid bicause of my discharge and for saving of the othe that I maid to God and the King, and in noone othre wise bycause he was oone of the Kinges Chapleins: this servaunt of my Lord of Lincoln that shewed me this by the way as I come froo Doncaster hight Saunder. And I shewed unto Master Karlill the last tyme the King was here that two felows that dwelt about Middleham said that here is good gate for us to Robyn of Redesdall over the walles; and this I said, and noo word more, litill nor mekill; and the same two felows resorted to my Lord of Lincolne houshold and come thiddre to mete and drink.

This doone, the said Maier, Aldremen and Counsaill sent to oone John Hoton, hostler, at the signe of the Boore within the said Citie, where the Prioure of Tynmouthe was lately loged, to undrestand if he be of the same persons or such othre had any knowlege; which personally appering bifore the said Maier, Aldremen and Counsaill affirmed that on Monday last past a servaunt of the Priour of Tynmouthe, accompayned with iij persons comyng out of the south parties; and the said Priour was ther logid the said Monday; wherupon it was determyned by the said Maier, Aldremen and Counsaill that as well the said James as the said John Huton, with the said Master Thomas Karlill and an officer of the said citie, shuld be sent with the comyssions abovesaid unto my Lord of Northumberland, to take furthre examinaccon in that partie, and therupon to understand (*fo.* 74b) his pleasur in the same, and that also furthwith oone shuld be sent with the copies of the said confessions unto the King to shewe the same unto his grace and to have knowledge of his

¹ Good man of the house. *cf.* St. Matthew XXIV, 43.

² *Cf.* Acts IV, 13.

³ Sign of the boor; The Blue Boar in Castlegate. *York Civic Records*, vol. I, p. 120.

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pleasur therin and othre thinges, wherwith his highnesse woll charge the said Maier, Aldremen, Counsaill and Comonaltie of the said Citie, which they wolbe redye to perfourmne according to ther duties.

fo. 74b. **Letter from the Mayor to the Earl of Northumberland.**

I commaunde me unto your good lordship and by Henry Barbour, this berer send unto you such thinges as hath be doone bfore me and certain my Brether, wherby ye shall undrestand such direccion as hath be taken amonges us here. Albeit I have sent John Sponer, oone of our officers unto your said Lordship, which is assigned to ride unto the Kinges Secretary with the copie of such thinges as we have sent unto you to present unto the Kinges grace if it seme to your Lordship it shall soo bee, and ells I am determyned to felow therin your pleasure froo I may undrestand the same, which I beseech you that I may by writing, to be delyvered unto the said John Sponer, whereby I may content the myndes of my Brether by whose avice it was determyned that the premisses shuld be shewed unto the Kynges highnesse forsaide. And as touching the furthre examinacion of Mr Thomas Karlill and othre more largely named in the othre writing sent unto your Lordship, I trust to knawe the plesoure of your Lordship by the said Herry Barbour . . . From York the last day of the month of March.

William Todde
Maire of the Citie of York

fo. 75. **Letter to the King's Secretary, the Bishop of Exeter.**

. . . Sir, after certain reportes maid unto me concernyng langage shewed to be uttred by oone James Taite of this Citie, I calling unto me certain of my Brether and othre of the Counsaill of this Citie, have examined the matier this day as apperith more at large in a bill herin cloused, besuching you to shew the same unto the Kinges grace and therupon undrestand furthre his pleasure therin, which and all othre I shal be glad and redye to accomplisse to thuttermast of my powre during my life by goddes grace, and that ye woll geve credence therin furthre unto this berer . . . From York the last day of Marche.

William Todde
Maier of the Citie of York

fo. 75b. **Reply from the Earl of Northumberland.**

3 April (1487).

. . . thanke you for youre curtasse writings and message to me at this tyme sent which I have right well conceyved. And where as in part of your instruccions ye certifie me of the departour

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of the Erle of Lincolne, I yisterday by the Kinges moost noble lettres to me directid was ascertayned of the same, and whereas ye aske myne advice in shewing the departour of the said Erle unto the Kynges Highnesse, I remitte that unto youre discreccions and wisdoms. Furthermore I pray you to show your faithfull diligence for the establisshment of the good rule and peax of that Citie, and to cause sure watche to be made within the said Citie, and also in subduyng all ryot and riotous langage by any persone committed contrary to the well of the King, oure souveraine Lord, and this his realme, if any suche can be fondon to see tham punyshed . . . Writyn in my Manour of Lekynfeld the first day of Aprill.

Your oune to my power,
Henry Northumberland.

fo. 78. **The cople of a lettre direct to Sir Hugh Hastings
Knight frome the Maier in the favour of
Roger Brokholls.**

Right. honourable and worshipfull Sir, I commaunde me unto you, and where hertofore upon certain credence shewed unto me upon the behalve of my lord and yours by a gentilman called Roger Kolke, servaunt unto his lordship, I have emprisonned oone of oure cociticyns and neighbours callid Roger Brokholls sith sonday last past to his grete hevynesse, hurt and discomfort. Sir, soo it is that as well diverse of my brether of the Chambre as othre right worshipfull and many honest Comoners of this Citie here unwilling gretely of his long imprisonment without bale and mayneprise, not knowing such cause why soo to bee, hath and doth make daily importune, labour and grete instaunce for his deliverance in that partie, offering certain of themselves to be bondon in a thousand pounds that the said Roger at all tymes hereafter shalbe furthcommyng to awnswer unto any thing which shalbe laide or object ayenst hyme by what persone it be in any behalve; which offer as yit have refused; and that not oonly hath set thame but also othre Comons of this Citie in a grete sisme and rumour, to me a thing right parliouse and importable. Wherfor I besuch your mastership to shewe the premishez unto my lords lordship and his noble Counsaill in suchwise as the said Roger may be let to bale and maynprised undre the somme abovesaid; or ells that I may be certified by his right noble lettres of such heynouse cause why he ne oght soo to bee, that I may shew the same unto the said Commoners for myne acquitall herein, and ther appesing; for it is thoght how that if any fre man of this Citie be emprisoned for any cause or thing comyt by hyme except it be ayenst thastate and dignitie royall or felony, may and oght to be maynprised undre such surtye. Master Hastings, I wold doo no prejudice unto the porest of the Commons here, standing as I stand,

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for an hundreth pownds, remembring the othe which I have takyn and in especiall in this my begynnyng in thoffice of Maralty. And therfore, I besuch you remembre the premisses, for they touche me right negh, and that I may be certified thereupon by the berer herof in all hast possible.

From York etc.

Your William Todde,
Maier of the Citie of York.

fo. 78b. **Letter from the Earl of Northumberland to the Mayor.**

Wheras Robert Symson, servaunt to Master William Beidley, brought unto us certain lettres from the Kings Highnesse commaunding me by virtue of the same, after due prouff hadd for the title of the said Master William concernyng thospitall of Well depending in traverse betwixe hime on the oone partie and Sir John Nicholson, person of Wath, on the othre partie, that I shuld see the said Master William wer put in possession in the said hospitals; I entending thaccomplissment of the Kings pleaser, sent my right trusty chapleyn, Master John Curwood with the said Robt Symson, berer of the said lettres for the perfourmans of the Kings pleaser in this behalve; and they going for thexecuting of the same at my sending, oon Roger Wannesford and Joseph Ughtred with othre riotous persons and misdoers lay in wait of the said Robt in Conyngstrete within the Citie of York; whereof ye have the rule, and have grevously hurt and woundid to the juperdie of his life; wherfore on the King our soverain lords behalfe I charge you, and on myne require you, to cause due inquisicon to be had after the fourme of the Kings lawes, soo as the veray truthe of the mater may be founden and . . .¹ And for the consideracion that Roger Brokholls aided, consorted and conveid the said misdoers and in especiall the said Roger Wannesford soo that by his meanes he skaped that he might not be attached, and as hidderto no certayne knowlage had whider the said Robt Symson will lif or noo of the said hurts; I therefore on the behalve of oure said soverain lord charge you, and on myn will you that the said Roger Brokholls be kept in sure warde as ye woll aunswer at your perill, unto the pleaser of his Highnesse be further shewed unto you either by his Grace or me. And where it is alleged for thexcuse of the said Joseph Ughtred that he shuld not be oone of the said misdoers he hath confessed tofore me such as by the same it may be well understand he was oone of thoccasioners of (fo. 79) the said ryot and affraye and soo of right he hath deservyd to be punnished.

Your hertly lover

Lekynfeld iiij day of April

Henry Northumberland

¹ Illegible.

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fo. 79. Letter from the Mayor to the Earl of Northumberland.

Where I have enlargid Roger Brokholls, supposing by such things as was shewed unto me that I therby shuld have pleasid you, knowing now the contrary; wherupon I have takyn again in too my warde the said Roger, and ther shal kepe hyme to I have furthre understand your pleaser in that partie. My lord, truthe it is that the same Roger largely excusith hyme of any lantage contrary his dutie as well touching the Kings Highnesse as your lordship, desiring me to be the meane unto your lordship that ye woll wotsave¹ to suffre hyme to present hyme unto the same. And over this diverse of my neighbours to the nombre of ij or iij C, at diverse tymes hath be with me for thenlargeing of the same, and can not welbe content with his imprisonment in this case, saving your pleaser. Wherfor, my lord, at the reverence of God, and the rather that my neighbours may knowe that your lordship at my poor prayer and moost humbe supplicacion in this partie wille suffer hyme to be enlarged, wherby I shalbe of better power to doo your service as my mynd is to doo, wotsave that the said Roger may be at this fest of Estre enlarged . . .

Your humble servaunt

William Todde, Maier of the Citie of York

fo. 83. Letter to the King asking for help in rebuilding the defences of the city and in arming the Castle.

To mooste highe and mighty cristen prince and oure moost redoubtid souverain liege lord the Kinge.

Moste highe and mighty cristen prince and oure moost redoubtid souverain liege Lord. We in oure moost humble wise recomendes us unto youre moost royall majestye, besuchinge almighty God to send your grace good and prosperoux life with the abboundaunces of perseveraunt fortunes. Pleasit the same to be acertayned we er and evermore shall be your true and feithful subgiettes, redy tobbey with oure bodis and godes any your high comaundementes, as well for the safegard of youre moost royall persone as this youre realme, and in especiall in sure preservyng of this youre Citie unto youre grace singularly ayenst all othre entending the contrary. Albeit, souverain Lord, youre said Citie is soo gretely decayed, as well by fallyng downe of the walles of the same and by takyng doune of youre Castell thar by King Richard, and as yet not recdifed, as othre in diverse wise, that without the same bee more largely manned may ne can not wel be kept ayenst youre ennymes and rebelles, if they shuld, as God defend, approche and move werre ayenst the same; and also howe your said Citie is not inhabit, by the whiche ther is not half the nombre of good men within your said Citie as ther hath beene in tymes past; wherfor it wold pleas your moost noble Grace if the

¹ Wotsave; vouchsafe; grant.

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case require that your said ennymes approche unto the same, to provide and ordane that your true citicyns therof may be conveniently assisted and releved at youre propre costes and charges, whereby we trust to God to withestond your said ennymes and kepe this oure said Citie unto you, soverain Lord; and where also youre-said Citie is not well furnesshed with artilment and stuff of ordnaunce for the more diffence of the same, as it hath beene heretofore, soo it hath beene charged of lait in that behalve, we besuche youre moste noble Grace, that some of youre ordnaunce and artilment of werr might be sent hidder to the same entent, which wer a thing unto us of grete comforth, and make us encouraged the more largely to withstand your said ennymes. Further to the berer herof, John Vavasour, your servant at the lawe, and our Recordour, we besuch your moost noble Grace to give credence in suche thinges as shall shewe unto the same upon oure behalve concernyng the premissez. And the blissed Trinitee preserve you, most highe and mighty cristen prince, and oure moost redoubtid souverain liege Lord, evere in felicitee. From your said Citie the xxiiij day of April the secunde yere of youre moost graciouse reigne

Your moost humble subgiettes and true liegemen the Maier, Aldremen, Shereffes and Comune Counsaill of your Citie of York.

fo. 83b. **Letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury, Lord Chancellor.**

. . . Pleas it the same to knowe howe at this tyme we have sent unto the Kinges grace, John Vavasour, his servant at the lawe, and our Recordour here, for diverse urgent causes and nececcities, as well concernyng the publique well of this his Citie of York as the inhabitauntes and savegard of the same, wherein and in all other thinges which we hereafter shal have to doo we besuche you to stand oure good lorde, and to geve full feith and credence unto the said John Vavasour in suche thinges as he shall shewe unto your lordship more playnely on our behalve . . . From York the xxij day of Aprile youres at ther poore powers

The Maier, Aldremen, Shereffes and Comane Counsaill of the Citie of York.

fo. 84. **The King bids the Council keep watch for rebels.**

Tuesday 22 April 2 Henry VII (1487). *Present*—William Todd, Mayor, 10 of the xij. 13 of the xxiv.

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you wele, and perceve wele the fast love and trouthe ye bere unto us accordingly to your dutie, and trust of your assured contynuaunce in the same, wherby ye shall cause us alwey to rest your favourable and gracious souverain lord. And for somoche peraventure as our rebelles and ther adherentes might by some crafty meanes and by espiell doo

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som reproche or vilany to our Citie there in case ye ne wer forseyng and advertised of the same, we therfor hertly pray you, and as ye tendre the welle of oure said Citie, and of yourself, exorte and desire you, that ye have yourself from hensfurth in such await that noon espies passe by you untaken, nor that any or rebelles or ther adherentes come amonges you, but that ye kepe due watche and warde for the suretie therof, as well by day as by night, and from tyme to tyme as unto youre discreccions it shalbe thoght behovefull. And on this we shalbe with Godis leve be nere unto you alwey tassiste and relief you if the case require. Ye can not doo for us that we shall forget, but soo remember it hereafter, that ye shall have cause of reason to thinke youre dutie unto us for wel employed. Yeven undre oure signet at our Towne of Huntyngdon the xx day April.

fo. 85b. **The King thanks the Council for their loyal service.**

Tuesday, 1 May (1487). *Present*—William Todd, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 6 of the xxiv.

Trusty and welbiloved we grete you wele, latting you wit that by sundry reportes made unto us we undrestande the faithfull diligence and wise weys that ye have used in couraging and favouring our subjiertes of oure Citie there and othre, for the observyng and keping of ther truthes and due obbeysaunce unto us, as to endeavour them to the resistance and withstanding of oure rebelles and traitours if they arrive in thoos parties and approche our said Citie, for the which your faithful acquitail and true demeanyng we thanke you hertly, praying you that like as ye have worshipfully begonne and doone ye woll persevere and continewe in the same; and ye may be assured we shalnot forget your constant trouthe and faithfull service in this partie, but soo remembre it as ye shall thinke it right welbestowed to youre wele hereafter. Yevene undre our signet at oure Citie of Coventre the xxviiij day of April.

fo. 86. **Letter from the Mayor to the King.**

Most high and mighty cristen prince and my moost redoubtid souverain Lord, in my moost humble wise I recomend me unto youre moost noble grace, and have receyved your moost graciouse letters to me direct the first day of this instant moneth of May, yeven at youre Citie of Coventre the xxviiij day of April, of the which I am right joyus, that it wold please your highnesse soo graciously to write unto me, your poore subgiert, in that behalve, and according to the contents therof I shall endeavour me as I have begonne and doon within this your Citie here to the uttermost of my powre to persevere and continewe in the same, as accordith to my naturall dutie and liegaunce as your true and

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faithfull subjiet, redy to obbey any your highe comaundementes, as well with my bodye as goodes at any tyme hereafter. And where othrewise ye gave me in comaundement in the same youre graciouse letters to attache oone Browne within this youre said Citie abiding, which I have perfourmed and hath hyme in my sure warde and keping, souverain Lord, soo it is that the said Browne on the tyme he was attachid was and as yet is soo evidently seck that he ne may without grete juperdie of his life travell on horsse or foote toward your highnesse furthwith. Wherefor I send unto your good grace the berer herof to undrestande your furthre pleaser threin. And if it shall please the same to have hyme conveyd in suche state as he is, I shall perfourme your high comaundement in that behalve according to my duetie in all goodly hast after perfite knowlage thereof. . . . From your Citie of York the third day of May the secunde yere of youre moost noble reigne. Your moost humble subgiet,

William Todde
Maier of this your Citie of York

fo. 86b. **Letter from the Recorder. The King is sending assistance to York.**

. . . the Kinges grace is well pleased and content for your due obbeying of his last letter and for the keping of his intent of the same and for your politik guyding of the Citie. Affore my comyng to the Kinges grace at Coventre oone of your maters was determyned, and a servant of the Kinges riden with writing and money to Sir Richard Tunstall, Sir John Saville, Sir Robert Rither, Sheref of Yorkshire, Sir Edmund Hastings, Sir John Nevill, Sir Rauff Bigod and Sir Marmaduc Constable to assist your Citie and the comunaltie of the same, in caas that the Kynges ennymes approche thiddre. I send you a lettre to William Tunstall for gonnys from the King, and also anothere lettre to Sir Richard Tunstall for the well of the Citie. Send furth ij servauntes of yours with bothe the same letters. And ye woll have any gonnes at Scarburgh, ye must cary them at youre coste and charge, and this is the Kinges comaundement. And on Saint Philip day and Jacob the popes bulles wer proclamed at Coventre by my Lord Archbisshop of Canterbury, and v othere bisshoppes undre stole, accursing all them that holdith ayenst the Kinges title. The King is gretely accompaigned and hath yit noo certain knowlage when his ennymes woll take ther shipping. As for any othere tidinges take credence to the berer of this letter. The blessed Trinitie have you in his keping. Writyn at Coventre the first of May. I forgat not your fraunchesse and liberties and that the knightes that the King intend to send to the Citie in caas that his ennymeas approche thiddreward to be undre the rule of my Lord the Maier, the which is the Kinges liuetenaunt there and he to have the chefe guyding

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undre the King. As to this desire the King and all his Counsaill was well pleased and content therewith.

Your Servant

John Vavasour your Recorder.

fo. 87. **Letter from the King. Artillery for York Castle can be got from Scarborough.**

Trusty and welbiloved we grete you wele, and have receyved your letters bering date the xxij day of the last moneth, and herd your credence uppon the same by our trusty servaunt, John Vavasour, oone of our sergiauntes at the lawe, and your Recordour, whereby we perceve well that accordingly to your duties ye be unto us true and faithfull subgietts, for the which we tendirly thanke you and pray you of your good continuance in the same. And whereas ye desire to have assistance of us at oure costes and charges etc., knowe ye that on the comyng to us of youre said Recordour we hadd wrtyn to diverse gentilmen, that they with their company shuld addresse them to oure Citie ther and have sent to them money for the same entent, as we trust ye shall shortly perceve by experience. We send to you also certayn oure letters endited to oure trusty and welbiloved William Tunstall, constable of oure castill of Scardeburgh, chargeing hym by the same to deliver by indentures unto you twelve serpentynes, some more, some less, of diverse sortes garnysshed with chambre and powder therunto according, ye making the costes and charges for the cariage therof, as by the copie of the said letters herein enclosed ye may undrestand more at large. And as for the discharge in oure Eschequir that ye desire to have there for certeyne our fefermes of oure said Citie, we seeing well the true acquittail ye be of, with your good devours, diligence and hertines anempst us, be content to send and write that of the same fee ferme ye shal have due allowance in all goodly hast as apperteyneth. . . .

. . . Coventre, the last day of Aprill.

fo. 87b. **Letter of Credence to the Mayor from the King.**

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you well, and send unto you our full trustie servaunt and chapeleyne, Master William Cretton to shewe to you our mynde in certain things ; we pray you that unto hym ye yeve full credence.

Coventre, the xxix day of Aprill.

fo. 88. **Lambert Symnell's Rebellion.**

Letter from the King to the Mayor, Aldermen, etc.

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you wele. And forsomoche as we have certain knowleige in sundry wise that our rebelles bene departid out of Flaundres, and goon westwardes, it is thoght by

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us and by oure Counsaill that ye shal not nede to have any strength or company of men of werre for this season to and by amonges you, and therefore we pray you that ye woll have sad regard to the good rule and sauf keping of oure Citie there, to the appesing of rumours and correcting of evel disposed folkes, with sending unto us youre newes from tyme to tyme. And assure yourself that for this true acquitail ye have beene of unto us, wherin we pray you to continewe, we shal be soo good and gracious souverain lord unto you as of reason ye shall have good cause to thinke the same for wel employed. Yevene undre our signet at our Citie of Coventre the iiij day of May.

fo. 88b.

Words spoken in York Minster.

Monday, 7 May (1487). *Present*—William Todd, Mayor, 10 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 9 of the xxiv assembled in counsaill.

It was shewed unto the said Maier and Counsaill by John Hastings, squire at the mase, howe oone John Cure of York, walkar, said unto hyme the day bifore in the Mynster, the Mayre and his brethren beyng togadder in counsaill behynd Saint Christopher,¹ "Loo, John Hastings, loo, hath not the Mayre and his brethren lattyn yone Knight come hiddere to be our Captayne? By goddes body I wold they wer all hanged, for thof they wold suffer it, in faith we wolnot."

Also it was shewed by Richard Borowe, squire, howe oone Robert Cook of York, pewterer, shuld say to hyme in the Mynster on Sonday last past in this fourme, "Master Borowe, will ye suffre thies Knightes that is comyn hiddre to be captayns? By goddes body, if ye woll suffre them, we wilnot, for we shall lyg it on their flesshes or even." And the said Richard Borowe said to the said Robert Cook, "Hold thyn peas, lewed felowe, for wer not for that connysaynt that thou beres, if my lord Mayre wol doo any thing for the Kinges grace, I shall cause thee to be enprisonned for thies wordes."

fo. 90.

An ex-Mayor of York is murdered at Bootham Bar.

Friday, 11 May (1487). *Present*—William Todd, Mayor, 8 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 8 of the xxiv.

It was determyned that writing shuld be maid unto the Kings grace shewing the heynouse deth of William Wells,² late Mayre and Alderman of this Citie. (fo. 90b).

Most high and mighty cristen Prince etc., thanking your moost noble Grace in that it hath pleased the same at our moost humble petition, late maid unto your said grace, so graciously

¹ St. Christopher. The Altar of St. Christopher was on the South side of the Nave of the Minster. *York Fabric Rolls; Surtees Society*, p. 279.

² William Wells was Mayor in 1479. See *York Civic Records*, Vol. I.

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too remember us in that ye have sent hidder for oure assistance and releef, as well in consideracon of the grete ruyne and decay of this your said Citie, at the taking doune of your Castell ther, and as yit not reedified, your right trusty and welbeloved knight for your body, Sir Richard Tunstall, your chapelyn, Master William Creton, and othre honorable gentilmen well accompaigned, which hath soo demeanyd them here that we and all othre wel-dysposid people of the same be right wel content with them, and by ther commyng and abode here gretely comforthed and enjoyed, whom we besuch your highnesse to have in the tendre favour of your grace for the same, certifying further your highnesse howe according to your moost drad commaundement contigned emongst othre things in your moost noble lettres yevene at youre Towne of Huntington, the xxday of April, we have kept due watche and warde for the surty of this your said Citie, as well by day as by night, and from tyme to tyme, and soo we shall continue unto we have othre wise in commaundement from your said grace. And where, soverain Lord, our welbeloved brothre, William Wells, late Mayre of this your said Citie, being at your said watch, as wardan and ruler therof, to our grete hevynesse and discomforth, was stricken to deth by oone, John Robson, milner and citicyn of this your said Citie, whom we have in sure ward to be inquired of according (*fo. 91*) to your lawes and punysshed after his demeritez, in example of all othre; and for so mooch as we ne may without the hurt of the wif of our said brothre take upon us within the yere to mak processe concernyng the punnysshment of the said John Robson, without your moost noble lettres of commission be unto us directed in that partie, we therfor besuch your moost noble Grace for soo moch as that heynouse dede was commyt on our saide brothre, standing oone of the Justics of your peas within your said Citie, and occupied the same tyme in your service as wardan of your watch at Bowthome barre, it wold pleas your Grace the rather to be enclined to graunt the said commission in the moost lawful and large fourme accustomed in such caas herbifore as well for treson as felony, if it soo shalbe fonden lauffully soo that the said heynouse dede may be punysshed. And where, soverain Lord, othrewise at our moost humble petition it pleased your grace to addresse your moost noble lettres unto William Tunstall, squire, your Cunstable of your castell of Scardeburgh, for xij serpentynes with chambre and powdre garnysshed sufficientlie for the same, to have be delyvered by indentour to this your Citie for the more diffence therof, as it did appere more at large in the copie of your said lettres to us sent in that behalve; wher upon we sent for the same, and we be aunswerd, soverain lord, by your said Constable, that ther is not iiij serpentynes within your said castell, and soo as yit we be not purved.¹

¹ purved; provided.

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fo. 91b.

The rebels are not expected to come to York.**From the King to the Mayor, Aldermen, etc.**

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you wele, and have undrestand by manyfold reportes made unto us the effectuel devoir and grete businesses that ye put you in, for the good provision and preparacion of vitail and othre stuff for such men of wirship and theire retenues, as we late commaunded to goo thidder for the surtye and defense of our Citie ther, if oure rebelles had arrived nigh thoos parties, for the which as we for many othre causes have doon, we thanke you hertely, and thus by your truthes and good myndes daily to us contynued ye have assured the favour of our good grace unto you, like as ye shall fynd in effect in such poursutes as ye shall make unto us hereafter ; lating you wit that seing our rebelles, as we be ascertayned, bee departid westwardes, we have licensid suche personnes as we comaunded to make ther repare thidde, to depart thens for a season and to resort to you agene if the caas shall so require, and also our cousin the Erle of Northumberland entendeth hastily to be in the cuntrey nigh unto you, which we doubt not wol gladly assiste and strength you at all tymes if ye desire hym so to doo. Yeven undre our signet at our castell of Kenelworth the viijth day of May

fo. 92.

Rules for the Ropers.

Monday, 21 May (1487). *Present*—William Todd, Mayor, Thomas Asper, *legi peritus*, 8 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 8 Councillors.

Item, past a bill of peticon maid by ropers and hasters, the tenour wherof is that every roper and haster commyng to this Citie, and woll set up as a master within the same Citie in making ropes, kilne hares, teilds or eny othre thing, pertenyng or belonging to the said craft of ropers and haysters,¹ shal pay at his first setting up xiijs iiij^d.

Item it is past that every forent commyng to this Citie setting ropes, kilne hares, teilds, sye or eny othre things to thame belonging, be contributory to the said ropers and haisters in paing of pagent silver.

Item that it be not leful to eny roper within this Cite and libertiez from hensforth to wrik eny maner stuffe as ropes, kilne heris, or eny othre thing to that craft belonging, in eny othre maner, not being of the same craft, to retale ayane apon payne of forfating of vjs viij^d.

fo. 92b.

Two prisoners to be sent to the King.

Tuesday, 22 May (1487). *Present*—William Todd, Mayor, John Vavasour, Recorder, Thomas Asper, 9 Aldermen.

¹ Haysters; hairster; a worker in horsehair. *York Memorandum Book*, vol. II, p. 171.

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From the King to the Mayor and Aldermen of York—it is comyn unto oure knowlege how that a certain persone of oure Citie there, not fering God nor the daungier of oure lawes, late cruelly mured a brothre of you for doing and executing (*fo.* 93) his office, whom for the said offence ye have in prison, wherfor we not willing such odious offencez to passe unpunysshed, woll and desire you and also charge you that incontinently, upon the receipt herof, ye doo send surely and saufly the said persone unto our trusty and welbeloved counsellour and nighte for oure body, Sir Richard Tunstall, Steward of our Honnour of Pountefrete, whome we have commaunded to convey hyme unto us to the entent that we may have hyme in examinacion upon his said demeanyng; and in like wise we woll that ye doo send unto the said Sir Richard, as well the persone remayning ther in ward for his unsitting and outeragious langage had unto you in the presence of oure trusty and welbiloved chapleyne, master William Cretone, as oone Roger Layton, soo that he may doo them to be brought unto us for to be examyned of suche thinges, as shalbe declared ayenst them at the comyng unto oure prescence;—yevene undre oure signet at oure castell at Kenelworth the xvj day of may.

M^d that this lettre was writyn and endoced tofore the sight of the lettre direct unto the Kinges grace from the Maier and his brethern as is tofore writtyn, as apperith more at large in othre the Kinges lettres hereafter ensuyng.

fo. 93. **Letter from the King to the Mayor and Aldermen.**

Trusty and wellbiloved we grete you wele. And bifore the comyng of your letters specifying amonges othre thinges your desire to have a commyssion which we send unto you by this berer, we had endoced unto you oure other letters, which the said berer shall delyver unto you, wherfor and for so moch as if it be thought unto you not according, for lak of auctorite or othrewise, to correct suche personnez as in oure former letters be comprised, we then pray you to ensue and accomplissh our mynd expressed in the same; yevene undre our signet at oure castell of Kenelworth the xvijth day of May.

fo. 93b. **From the Mayor and Council to the King.**

We . . . have receyved of late as well your gracious letters of commissions which we have and shall putte in full execucion after the contentes therof, as othre your moost noble letterz missives to us direct, and according to your moost drad comaundment in the same, we have sent unto the right worshipful Ser Richerd Tunstall, your counsaillour and knight for your body, at Pountfret, John Robson, milner, which late haynously committed the deth of our brothre, William Welles, with oone John

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Cure, walkar, whom we had in bale for certain his unsitting langage uttered in oure Guildhall bifore your chapleyne, Master Cretone, at his last being ther, to be conveyed unto your highnesse by your said knight ; and where by the same your moost noble letters we had in commaundement to attache oone Rogier Layton, and hyme to have sent with the other above writyn unto your said knight, souverain Lord, we upon the sight of the same, did put us in our uttermost devoirs to have attachid hyme, and as yit we ne can atteyne soo to doo for soo moch as he is departid from this your Citie and unknowne to us where he is; albeit souverain Lord, if the said Rogier resort at any time hereafter unto the same, we shall perfourme your high commaundement in that (*fo.* 94) behalve as accordith with the dutye of oure liegeaunces ; and for as much as we doubt that labour shalbe made unto your highnesse for the said John Robson at his comyng unto the same for the acquital anempst that haynouse dede, by certaine persones entending the subversion of us and this youre chambre, if the same shulde passe unpunished, as God defend, we send unto youre moost noble Grace one of the Chambreleyns of this youre said Citie, son in lawe unto oure late brothre W. Welles and berer herof, to shewe the verey truthe of the deth of the said William Welles, ayenst any senistre reportes to be maid unto youre highnesse contrary the same, and furthre our myndes concernyng the premissez.¹

fo. 95.**Letter from the King.**

Witsonday in the Chapitour House of the Cathedral Church of York.

Assembled in counsaill, where the kinges letters delivered by John Stokdale, oone of the Chambreleyns of this Citie, directid as ensuith, was discoused and red aftre the tenour ensuing.

To oure trusty and welbiloved the Maier and Aldremen of oure Citie of York.

Trusty and welbiloved we grete you wele, and where as we late directid unto you our especiall lettrez for the sure and sauf sending unto our trusty and welbiloved counseillour and knight for oure bodye, Ser Richard Tunstall, of oone John Robson that late ther cruelly murdred a (*fo.* 95b) brothre of youres to oure grete displeasire, and aftre that sent unto you oure letters of commission to sitte and enquire of the said offence and to procede to the execucion of the said murdour, it is soo that ye, setting apart the auctorite of the said commission, have sent the same offendoure unto us ; wherfore we woll and commaunde you to send us word by writing whethre ye may procede ther to the accomplisshment of our said commission and to the full punisshment of the said persone ;

¹ The letter is signed by the Mayor, Recorder, 10 aldermen, 2 sheriffs, 13 of the 24.

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and if ye may soo doo, and desire us by your writing to have hyme thiddre, we shall send hyme ayen unto you, to the entent that the ministracion of justice ayenst hyme according to his demeritiez, which we woll that ye in all wise putt in full execucion, and in the meane season we shall see hyme surely and sauflly to be kept without grace or pardonne; and if any personnez reseaut amonges you woll presume to interrupte or let you in ministracion of justice in this partie, we woll than that ye doo them to be attachid and sent surely unto us, and we shall soo provide for ther punisshment as all othre shall take example and fere to doo or attempt any such thinges hereafter. Yeven undre our signet at our castell of Kenelworth the last day of May.

Wherupon it was determyned by all above writtyn, that they shuld mete agayne in Counsaill at the brig the morow after-noon, at ij of the klok, to examyn more ripely the contentes of the said letters, and therupon to write unto the kinges Grace according to his highe commaundement.

fo. 96. **The Council ask the King that the murderer of the ex-Mayor may be tried at York.**

Monday, 4 June (1487). *Present*—William Todd, Mayor, John Vavasour, Recorder, 12 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 10 Councillors assembled in counsaill, determyned that writing shalbe maid unto the Kinges grace in fourme following:—

Most high and mighty cristen prince, and oure moost redoubtid souverain liege Lord, we in our moost humble wise recomend us unto your moost noble Grace, thanking youre highnesse of youre moost noble lettres to us direct, yevene at youre castell of Killingworth the last day of May, which is to oure moost singler comforth, for that we knowe youre grace woll execute youre lawes and cause misdores to be punysshed according to ther demeritiez; souverain Lord, as for the murdour of oure brother William Welles, at youre sute youre lawes wolnot suffre John Robson takyn for the same to be arreynd to the yere and day be past, albeit the wif of the said William Welles saith that she woll sue a bille of appele bifore us, ayenst the said John, in the case we arreyne hyme by the vertue of your said comission, and in the case she soo woll doo, we woll according to justice procede ayenst the said Robson upon the comission of gaol deliverye and of hur bille of appele, if it shall pleas your highnesse to send the said Robson doune unto us agayne and thereupon to doo execution as your lawes shall require (*fo. 96b*)—From York the iiij day of Juyn. Your moost humble subgiettes The Maier, Aldremen, Shereffes, and comune Counsaill of your Citie of York.

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fo. 96b.

Lambert Symnell's Rebellion.**Letter from the Earl of Northumberland.**

——Whereas the King our souverain lordes rebelles bene landed in Fournays, at the pile of Fowdray, upon monday last past, which God helping I entend to resist, and for the same intent wolbe in the citie of York toward them upon sonday next comyng ; therfore I desire and pray you to cause provision of vitail to be redy ayenst that tyme for such people as shall come and be ther with me, also that ye incontinent after the sight herof woll provide for the sure keping and saufgard of the said Citie, and that suche persones as ye goodly may forbere, the Citie kept, if it woll pleas you, they may accompany me in ther best and moost defensible array to do the King service for the entent afforsaid. And I pray you to yeve credence unto my right trusty servaunt Richard Burgh, squire, concernyng the premisses.—Writyn in my Maynour of Lekingfeld the vj day of Juyn.

Your loving frend,

H. Northumberland.

Which letter was oppynly red bifore the Maior, Aldremen and Commune Counsaile of the Citie of York ; first in the Counsaill Chambre within the Guilhall, and after bifore all the Comons of the said Citie in the said Guilhall ther assembled, where and when (fo. 97) as well the said Maier, Aldremen, Shereffs and Commune Counsaill forsaid as the said Commons was agreed eithre to othre holding up ther hands that they wold kep this Citie with ther bodiez and goods to thuttermost of ther powerez to the behove of our souverain lord the King ayenst any his rebells entending to entre the same.

fo. 97.

Lambert Symnell sends a letter to the Council.

Copie of a letter direct to the Maire, etc. from the lords of Lincoln, Lovell and othre, late landed in Fournays in the name of ther King calling hymself King Edward the V.

By the King.

To our trusty and wellbiloved the Maiour, his brethren and comunaltie of our Citie of York.

Trusty and wellbiloved we grete you wele, and for somoch as we beene comen within this oure realme, not oonlly, by goddes grace, to atteyne oure right of the same, but also for the relief and well of our said realme, you and all othre our true subgiettes, whiche hath bene gretely injurid and oppressid in default of nowne ministracon of good rules and justice, desire therfor, and in our right herty wise pray you that in this behalve ye woll shew unto us your good aides and favourez. And where we and such power as we have broght with us, by meane of travayle of the see and upon the land, beene gretely weryed and laboured, it woll like you that we may have relief and ease of logeing and vitailles within

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oure citie ther, and soo to depart and truly pay for that as we shall take. And in your soo dooing ye shall doo thing unto us of right acceptable pleaser, and for the same find us your good and souverain lord at all tymes hereafter. And of your dispositions herein to ascertain us by this bringer. Yevene undre our signet at Masham the viij day of Juyn.

(fo. 97b). Which letter was immediately sent to Therl of Northumberland for to see, and a copie of the same was sent to Sir Ric. Tunstall and an othre deliverd to Master Payne to shewe it to the Kings grace. And furthwith the Maire, Aldremen, Shereffs and Commune Counsaill of the Citie of York assembled in counsaill in the Counsaill Chambre within the Guildhall, departed from the Counsaill and commaunded and was agreed that evere Wardan shuld be in harnesse and reise his warde and kepe due watch that noo persone shuld have entre into the said Citie, bot such as bee true liegemen unto our souverain lord the King, Herry the sevent. And the said Maior incontintly by thadvise of his bretherne, Aldermen, Shereffs and Common Counsaill forsaide, sent in message unto the said lords of Lincoln and Lovell iij of the Chamberleyns, yeving theme in commaundement to shew unto the said lords that my lord the Mayre, my masters his bretherne, Aldremen, the Shereffs, Commune Counsaill with thool Communaltye of the Citie of York beene finally determyned that he which the said lords callid the King they nor none of ther retinew or company entending to approch this Citie shuld have any entrie into the same, bot to withstand them with ther bodies and goods, if they wold attayne soo to doo.

And the same day a letter was direct from Therl of Northumberland unto the Maier etc. as hereafter foloweth.

fo. 97b. **The Earl of Northumberland promises his help.**

——thanke you for your luffing dispositions perseverantly shewed unto me, but specially for the faithfull guyding and true dispositions shewed for your provident and sure ordning of the King our souverain lordes Citie undre your rule, for the surtie and conservacion of the same to his moost high pleaser, praying you as effectually as I can, therin to shewe your faithfull endeavours with all diligence as ye have doone, and if the caas require (*fo. 98*) that occasion be to the contrary herof, I therof certified, who, God helping, wolbe at Poklington to morowe at evene, shall not rest ther but be with you the same nyght, like as worshipfull thes berers, chapleyns unto the Kinges highnesse, kan shewe unto you, to whom I pray you to yeve credence, and upon Sondag next comyng I wol not fail to be with you at the farrest, and tofore if ye think it requisite. — Writyn in my Manous of Lekyngfeld the viij day of Juyn.

Your lovyng frend,

H. Northumberland.

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fo. 98.

Lambert Symnell's Rebellion.

The processe of the Batell beside Newark in the third [second] yere of the reigne of King Henry the Seventh.

Satterday, the viiiij day of Juyn the yere of the reigne of our souverain lord King Herry the Sevent, at after none of the same day, the Chamberleyns sent in message unto the Lordes of Lincolne and Lovell, and othre herebifore named, come in at Mikylgate-barre, and ther shewed unto my lord the Mayre and othre his brethren being present, howe the said lordes and ther retinewe was departed on Brugh-brig, and soo streght suthward, not entending to come negh this Citie to doo any prejudice or hurt unto the same. And incontintly after ther comyng the Lord Clifford sent word unto my lord Maier that he might come in with his folkes and retenewe for to assiste and support the Maier and the Communaltye of this Citie, if any of the Kinges ennymes wold approche unto the same. Wherunto the Mayre consentid and graunted that he shuld soo have his entree, and causid all the stret of Mikelgate to be garnysshed with men in harnesse the nomber of DC personez and mor, and within the space of iiij houre aftre, receyved the said Lord Clifford at Mikelgate-Barre with CCCC personnez of footmen and horsmen in to the said Citie and sent unto hyme a present of wyne and according to his honour.

And upon Trinitie sonday at none my Lord of Northumberland with many knyghtes and lordes of this cuntree cam (fo. 98b) to this Citie, and the same day at afternounge the Lord Clifford toke his journey towardes the Kinges ennemyes lyng upon Bramham More, and loged hymself that night at Tadcastre, but the same night the Kinges ennymes lying negh to the same towne, cam upon the said Lord Clifford folkes and made a grete skrymisse ther, into so moch that he, with such folkes as he might get, retourned to the Citie again; and at that same skrymisse wer slayne and maymed diverse of the said toune, and thinhabitants ther wer spoled and robbed, and the gardewyans¹ and trussing² coffers of the Lord Clifford was taken of the brig by misfortune, and had unto the other partie. Also upon the tewesday after, Therl of Northumberland, Lord Clifford and many othre nobles accompanyd with vj M¹, nombred, departid suthward toward the Kinges grace at xj of the klok, and anone after his departour the Lordes Scropes of Bolton and Upsall, constreyned as it was said by there folkes, cam on horsbak to Bowthom Barre, and ther cried King Edward, and made a salt at the yates, bot the Comons being watchmen there well and manly defendid tham and put tham to flitht. And incontintly the Maier upon knowlage therupon, accompaned with a C personez in harnesse, made his proclamaccon thugh out the Citie in the name of King Herry

¹ gardewyans, gardeviances; travelling trunks.

² Trussing coffers; packing chests.

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the Sevent, chargeing all manre of fraunchest men and othre reseaut within this Citie, furthwith to be in harnesse and attend upon the wardans, and that evere warden shuld kepe his ward at his juberdy, and that all manre of estraungers in (fo. 99) harnesse shuld depart furth of the Citie at the South gate, under the payne of forfatour of his harnesse and his body to prison. Therle of Northumberland having knowlege hereof, being within vj milez of the Citie, sent in message unto the Maier and desired hyme that he might come and entre the Citie agane for diverse consideracions and causes hyme moveing. Wherupon the Maier, by thadvice of his brethre, sent Master Vavasour, Recordour, and iij of his bretherne, Aldremen, with othre of the Counsaill of this Citie accompayned with xij horsse, in message unto the said Erl, shewing howe he shuld be welcome to the said Citie, and as many as he wald undretake wer the Kinges true liegemen, and causid all the strete of Mikelgate to be garnished with men in harnesse to the nombre of iiijM¹. And incontintly therupon, the said Erl, the Lord Clifford, and othre many nobles accompayned with iiijM¹ men and moo, was thankfully receyved unto the said Citie, and there continued to Thursday, Corpus Christi day, and the same day at noone hastily the said lordes toke ther journey towards the north parties.

Upon Corpus Christi evene, proclamacion was made thugh the Citie that the play of the same, for diverse consideracions moveing my lord Maier, my masters Aldremen and othre of the Comune Counsaile, shuld be differd unto the Sondag next after the fest of Saint Thomas of Canterbury. And then aftre it was differd to the Sondag next aftre the fest of Saint Petre called *Ad vincula*, because of the Kinges comyng hidder.¹

The Satterday next after the fest of Corpus Christi, the King lying with a grete powre divyded in three hostez beyond Newark, the wayward of the same in which th'erl of Oxford, the Lord Straunge, Sir John Chyney, th'erl of Shrewsbury, and many othre to the nombre of x M¹ (fo. 99b) met with the Lordes of Lincolne and Lovell with othre many noblez, as well of Ynglisshmen as Irisshmen, and othres to the nombre of xxM¹, of the more beyond Newark, and there was a soore batell, in the which th'erl of Lincolne and many othre, as well Ynglisshmen as Irissh, to the nombre of vM¹ were slayne and muredred; the Lord Lovell was discomfotid and fled, with Sir Thomas Broghton and many othre, and the child which they callid ther King was takyn and broght unto the Kinges grace, and many othre in grete nombre which was juged to deth at Lincolne and othre placis therabout. And upon Sondag by iii of the klok in the mornyng, tidinges came to my lord Maier from the feld, howe Almighty God had sent the

¹ An indication of how the House Books were written up some time after the events reported in them took place.

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King victorie of his ennymes and rebelles, and therupon my Lord Maier, taking with hym his brethre Aldremen, with thool Counsaill of this Citie, upon certaine knowlege of the victory forsaide shewed by the mouthe of a servaunt of Master Recordour comyng streight from the said feld, came to the Cathedrall Church of York, and there caused all the ministres of the same to make lovinges¹ to our Saveour for the tryumphe and victory forsaide, singing solemplye in the high qwere of the said church the psalme of *Te Deum Laudamus* with othre suffragies.

fo. 101b. **The King orders Thanksgiving for Victory.**

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you wele. And forsomoche as it hath liked our blissed Saveour to graunte unto us of his benigne grace the triumphe and victorie of oure rebelles without deth of any noble or gentilman on oure part, we therfor desire and pray you, and sithin this said victorie procedeth of hym, and concernyth not oonly the wele and hondour of us, but also of this our royme, nrthlesse charge you, that calling unto you in the moost solempne church of oure Citie ther, your brethern Thaldremen and othre, ye doo lovinges and praisinges to be yevene to oure said Salveour aftre the best of your powers. Yevene undre oure signet at oure Toune of Newwarke xvj day of Juyn.

fo. 103. **The York Mint.**

Be it had in mynde that the xxviiij day of Juny in the secund yere of the reigne of King Herry the vij, Thomas Graa, Master of the Mint within the palois garth of the Citie of York deliverd unto William Todde, Maier of the Citie of York, a bagg of ledder contigning xij old conyng iryns, that is to say, iiij standers² and viij trussells;³ the which bagg the said William Todde, Maier, sealed and delivered to the hands of John White, coigner, to deliver unto the Chequour at London, and from thens to bring newe gravene iryns agane from the said Eschequour unto the said Citie of York.

fo. 104b. **The King coming to York.**

Thursday, 26 July (1487). *Present*—William Todd, Mayor, John Vavasour, Recorder, 10 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 6 Councillors.

It was shewed by John Sponer, sergiaunt at the mase, late sent in message unto the Kyngs secretary, with certain writing and credence, how the Kings grace entendith, God speding, to be at this his Citie here upon monday next commyng betwix iiij and

¹ Lovinges; i.e., praises.

² Stander; device on a coin. *N.E.D.*

³ Trussell, the puncheon for making the impress on the upper side of the coin. *N.E.D.*

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v of the klok at afternone the same day, accompayned betwix xij or xv thowsand men, and to tary and make his abode there frome the said monday to the thursday in the morning; and that my lord the Mayre with his brethren, Aldermen, and the Common Counsaill of this Citie in there moost goodly array, as merchaunts and citicyns, shuld receyve his grace into the Citie, according thauncient custome of the same; and also that the play of Corpus Christi shuld be made redy ayenst Lammesse day, for as far as he culd perceve by the Kings secretary forsaide it shuld please his highnesse to here it the same day. Which premissey shewed, the said John Sponer, with thanks yevne for his acquitall therin departed with licence frome the said Counsaill. Whereupon it was determyned that my lord Mayre, my masters Thaldermen, his brether, clothed in scarlet, and the Comune Counsaill in cremesyn and other wise godly arrayed shuld receive the Kings highnesse into this his Citie without Mikillyth barre, standing on rowe bifore Saint Thomas house ther, and that master Recordour shuld use thies woords ensuyng unto the Kings grace there, in the name of my lord Mayre, my masters Aldremen, Shereffs, Commune Counsaill and thool body of this Citie—"Moost high and mighty Christen Prince and our moost drad soverain liege Lord—the Maier, Aldremen (*fo.* 105), Shereffs and Commune Counsaill with thool body of this Citie, as your true and faithfull subgietts, welcome your most noble Grace unto this your Citie with due lovings unto almyghty God for the grete fortune and noble tryumphe and victory it hath pleased his godhede to graunt unto your Highnesse at this tyme in subduyng of your enemyes and rebels, besuching almyghty God to continew in the same."

And that within the barre in Mikilgate of either side the strete shall stand the Communalty in ther best array, without any staffs bering, with due obeysaunce making unto his Grace and crying of—King Herry.

Also it was determyned, then and ther, that proclamacions shuld be maid thurgh the Citie incontiently after departour of the Counsaill in forme folowing—

Oyes, theise.

My lord Mayre and Shereffs of this Citie straitly chargeth and commaundeth on the behalve of our soverain lord the King, that evere commune vitailer of this Citie, that is for to say, bakers, brewers, bowchers, fisshers, vinters, cooks and inholders have redy within them vitaill suffisaunt for such company as shall attend here upon our soverain lord the King at his commyng hidder upon monday next ensuyng or at any tyme of . . . , as well for man as for best, during such season as it shall please his Highnesse to make his abode here, and in his retourne againe unto the same; and that evere vitailer sell noo maner of vitaill but such as is holosome, both for man and best, and sell after suche price, and to

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kepe the true assise as shalbe set upon the same by my lord Mayre, as clerk of the market within this Citie, at the commying of the Kyngs Grace unto the same, upon the payne of forfaytour of a C^s to be raised of evere commune vitailler failing in this behalve, and his body to prison. And that all red wyne, claret and white be sold for x^d a galon, and no deirer under the payne above (*fo.* 105b).

fo. 106.**Royal Proclamation.**

Cople of a proclamation sent from the King's grace unto my Lord Mayor by the knight herbingers to be published through the Citie.

The King our sovereign Lord straitly chargeth and commaundeth that noo maner of man, of whatsoever astate, degree or condicion he be, robbe, dispole any churche, ne take out of ye same any ornament therto belonging, ne touche nor set hand on ye pix, wherin the blessed sacrament is contigneyd, nor yit robbe ne dispole any maner of man or wooman upon payne of deth. And also that noo maner persone ne personnes whatsoever they be make no querell to any man nor sease upon ne trowble any man by body or goods for any offense, or by colour of any offense hertofore doone or committed ayenst the royals magestie of the King our sovereign lord without his auctoritie on special commaundement yeven unto hyme or them that soo dothe in that behalve upon payne of deth. Also that noo maner of persone whatsoever he be ravissheh noo religieuse woman nor mannes wif, doughter, mayden ne noo midvif ne woomans servaunt, nor take nor presume to take any maner of vitail, horsemēt or mannes met without paying therfor the resonable price therof assesed by the clerke of the market or othre the Kings officers therfor ordigned upon payne of deth. Also that noo maner of persone ne personnes whatsoever they be take upon theme to loge themself nor take noo maner of loggeing after that he be assigned with thadvise and assent of the said harbingers upon payne of enprisonment and to be punnisshed at the wille of our saide souveraine lord. Also that noo maner of man whatsoever he be make noo maner of quarell with any other man for noo maner of cause, olde or newe, ne make noo maner affraye within the ooste ne with out, upon payne of enprisonment, and to be punysshed according to his trespasse and defaute, and if ther happen any such quarell or affraye to be made by any evil disposed personnes that than noo maner of man for any acquentance or feliship that they be of take noo part with noo suche misdoers in any such affrayes or querells upon payne of enprisonment and to be punysshed (*fo.* 106b) at the King will, but that every man endeavour himself to take all such misdoers and bringe them to the marshalls ward to be punysshed according to ther deserts. Also that noo maner of persone whatsoever he be

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hurte, trouble, bete nor lett noo maner of persone, man, woman, or chylde bryngyng vitail on to the Kings oste upon payne of enprisonment and his body to be at the Kings wille. And over this that every man being of the retinew of our said soverain lord at the first sownd or blast of the trumpet doo sadell his horse, at the secunde doo bridell, and at the thirde be redy on horsbak to wayte upon his highnesse upon peyne of enprisonment. Also that noo maner of persones whatsoever he be make noo skryes, showtings nor blowing of hornes in the Kings oste after the watche be sett upon payne of enprisonment and his body to be at the Kings wille. And also that noo vacabund nor othre folowe the Kings ostes upon payne of enprisonment and to beare punysshment in example of othre, and noo common woman folowe the Kinges ostes upon payne of emprisonment and openly to be punysshed in example of all othre. Also whansoever it shall please the Kinge our soverain lord to commande any of his officers to charge anything in his name by his high commandement or by the commandement of his Constable or Marshall, that it be observed and kept upon payne of enprisonment and his body to be punysshed at the Kings pleaser.

fo. 107.

King Henry's second visit to York.

The Monday the xxxth day of the month of July the Kings grace accompayned with many lords and nobles of his realme and ther retinew to the nombres of x thowsand men in harnesse with his baner displayed cam to the Citie of York about iiij of the klok at after none ye same day and at Saint Thomas hospitall without Mikilgate barre my lord Mayre, Master Recordour with all Aldermen and Counsellours of this Citie in ther most goodly maner and aray like citicyns receyved his moost royall persone into this Citie with words ensuyng utterd by the mouthe of Master Recorder forsaide.

Moste high and mighty christen Prince and our moost dred soverain lige lord, youre true and faithfull subgietts, the Mayre, Aldremen, Shereffs and Common Counsell with thool body of this your Citie in ther moost humbly wise welcomes your moost noble grace unto the same, yeving dew lovings unto Almighty God for the grete fortune, noble trihumpe and victory which it hath pleased his godhede to graunt unto your Highnesse, subduyng your rebells and enemyes at this tyme, besuching Almighty God to continewe your mooste noble grace in the same.

Which words the Kings grace receyved thankfully and soo rodd furth thurgh the Citie, my lord Mayre bering the mase before his highnesse on horsebak unto the palays beside the Cath Church of York. On Weddynsday after in the fest of thadvincle of Saint Peter the play of Corpus Christi by tho Kings commaundement was playd thurgh the Citie, and his grace hering the same in Con-

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yingstrete at Thomas Scot house. Thursday after in the mornynge Roger Layton, squire, was juged at the Guildhall to be heded for certain poynts of treason committed by hyme ayenst the Kings highnesse, and of Satterday next after at ij of the klok at after none the said Roger was heded upon Payment and his body and hede beryd togidder in his pariss church of the Holy Trinitie in Goth-eromgate. The same Saturday and Thursday before, Thomas Metcalf; gentelman, and oone Tempeste was juged by Sir John Troubleveile, knight marshall, was juged to be heded in like wise, but after they obtigned ther pardones upon the Kings grace. In the vigill of Saint Peter callid Advincle the King dubbed my lord (*fo.* 107b) Maior callid William Todde and Richard York, Alderman, Knights. Monday after the Kings grace accom-panied with many lords and nobles of this his realme toke his journey toward Durham and Newcastell. And from thens retourned within the space of xiiij days commynge by Burghbrig and soo streight unto Pountfrect, unto the which my lord Mayre, iiij Aldermen accompayned with lx horsse cam unto the Kings grace shewing unto his highnesse certain maters concernynge the well and prouffit of this Citie, of the which they hadd a parfite aunswer and his grace right well content with ther commynge, and so retourned agayne unto this Citie upon the Sondag after the fest of Saint Bartilmewe. The same Sondag at night certaine gentlemen and yomen belonging unto the Abbot of Saint Mary abbey made affray and asalt upon oone Bordwall, shomaker, dwelling in Staynegate ayenst thordinaunce of this Citie, for the which the said Abbot, not knowing of the said affray, nor willing to ratifie the same, sent unto my lord Maier and his brethre, Aldremen, and othre of the Counsell assembled in Counsaile the said gentlemen and yomen upon the Toweday next after to shew ther dealing and to submitte themselves if they had oght offended ayenst the Kings peas and libertie of this Citie.

fo. 108.**Venison Feast.**

The Fest of venyson and wyne gevene to the Maier and Commonaltie by therl Northumberland.

The right prepotent and right noble lord Therl of Northumberland for his entier affeccion and luff which he did and dothe bere unto the Citie of York, and in consideracion of the good zeale and true herts which th inhabitants of the same hath ever borne towards his lordship, of his owne mere mocion gaf unto my lord Maire, his bretherne Aldermen and Commune Counsaill viij warants for viij bukks and v marks of money to be disposid in solace and recreation of them and of the honest commoners of the said Citie; which as it apperteyneth was thankfully receyved and the said warrants put in execucion and sped; and for somoch as the said v marks wold not suffice nor extend to half the costes of the said

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recreacion, it was thoght that the guild of Saint Christopher¹ shuld susteigne the supperluss, which did amount the somme of vi^{li}, that by the same and the residue of the said marks left of over expencs and lauboures about the speding of the said warrants and othre things necessary in that behalve with the said bukks. My lord Mayre, my Mastres thaldermen his brether, the Commune Counsaill with othre gentilmen of Aynsty and sex hundreth of the moost honest Commoners of this said Citie had a worshipfull recreacion, solace and disport with brede, also venyson rost and bakyn with rede wyne suffisiaunt without anything paing for the same, bot onely thanks unto the said right prepotent right noble lord, and the said guild of Saint Christopher. In the Guildhall of the said Citie the Monday x day of Septembre in the iij yere of the reigne of our sovereign lord King Herry the vijth.

fo. 108b.

Visit to the King at Pontefract.

St Bartholomews Day, 24 August (1487). *Present*—William Todd, Mayor, the Recorder, 10 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 10 of the Common Council. At the Guihald.

Determynd that my Lord Mayor, Master Recorder, Sir Ric. York, knight, William Chymney, John Harper, John Gilyot, Aldremen; Thomas Fynch and Nicholes Vicars accompayned with xl horsse shuld ride unto the Kings grace to Pountfret for certain urgent maters concernyng the puplique wele of this Citie to be shewed unto his highnesse ther in his departour furth of this north cuntre.

Also the same day the Commune Seall was graunted by all the Communes assembled in the Guilhall unto John Beseby and John Shawe, Shereffs, for the indempnity and surty anempst the payment of lx^{li} grauntid unto ye said Citie by the Kings grace of the fee farme of the same.

Also the same day it was aggreed by all above writyn that for such offence as Alexander Dauson comitte ayenst this Citie in latting in oone Roger Layton, standing oute of the Kings grace, and late put to execucion for certain his demerities ayenst his highnesse, in to the said Citie at suche time as his rebells approched unto the same and also for so moche as the said Alexander did purchasse the Kings writing ayenst my Lord Mayre surmising (fo. 109) wrong suggestions in the same ayenst hyme, shuld submitte himself unto my Lord Maier and to the use of the Communaltye pay upon grace and othre pardone x^{li}

Satterday after the fest of Saint Bartilmewe, my Lord Maier accompayned with his brether Aldremen and othre above named to the nombre of lx horssez rode to the Kings grace to Pountfret,

¹ The Guild of St. Christopher. The Guildhall was completed in the year 1449 at the joint cost of the Mayor and Council and St. Christopher's Guild on the understanding that the Guild should hold its meetings there.

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where they were right worshipfully receyved and of the Kings grace hertly welcomed. And after certaine urgent maters shewed unto his highnesse concernyng the puplique wele of this Citie retourned unto the said Citie, purchasing¹ amongs othre things the Kings severall writings as the tenour therof ensueth, the Sonday next after.

Henry by the grace of God, King of England and of Fraunce and lord of Irland to our trusty and welbeloved the Maior and his bretherne of our Citie of York and to the Commune Counsaill of the same, greting—forasmoch as we be credibly enfourmed that the Wapentake of Aynesty adjoynyng unto our said Citie is within the precincte and boundes of the fraunchises of the same as parcell of the Countye therof, whereby the reseants and inhabitaunts within the same aught of right to be redy in obeyng and attending upon you whan ye shall call upon them for ther assistance in the defense and tuicion of our said Citie if they was required—We therfor tendring the well and surtie of the same woll that according to your auctoritie ye in oure behalve yeve straitly in commaundement unto all (*fo.* 109b) knights, squires, gentlemen and all othre resiannts and inhabitaunts of and within the said wapentak to be attending and assisting unto you for the defence and sauvgard of our said Citie, when the case shal require, upon the perill that may ensue, and that ye faile not thus to doo as ye woll aunswer unto us at your perills. Yevene undre our signet at our Castell of Pountfrete the xxvj day of August, the third yere of our Reigne.

(On the same folio is an order from the King to the men of Ainsty to help in the defence of York).

fo. 110b.

The Council and the Franciscan Friary.

21 September, 3 Hen. VII (1487). *Present*—William Todd, Mayor, 12 Aldermen, John Vavasour, Recorder, 2 Sheriffs, 10 of the Common Council.

Assembled in the Counsaill at the Counsalle Chambre within the Guildhall determyned that the warden and brethern of the house conventuall of frerez minours within the Citie of York, wherof the Mare and Commonaltie of the same for the tyme being stands patronez and foundours, in consideracion thereof and of the povertie and nowne havour² in the which they be of at this tyme, and also for singing of an annual obit with masse, dirige and othre suffraigs with dailey prayers for the prosperous lifs of the Maire and Commonaltie forsaid liffig, and for ther soulez, when they be past this transitory lif, and of all christen soules, an annual pension of xx^s over and above such somme of money as shalbe offerd by the said Maire, his bretherne, Aldermen, the commune Counsaill

¹ purchasing; getting.

² Haviour; property, estate, wealth. *N.E.D.*

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and othre of the Commonaltie at ther pleaser, the day of the said massez ; and that iiij of thaldermen above writyn, that is to say, Sir Ric York, Thomas Wrangwisshe, John Tong and John Fereby shall have comunicacion with the said Warden and his brether for a convenient place to be assigned unto the said Maire and his brethren within ther placez at such tymes as shall resort to the same at ther pleasers.¹

fo. 111b.

Members of Parliament.

16 October 3 Hen. VII (1487). *Present*—William Todde, the Mayor, 8 Aldermen, 8 counsellors.

Annuity of xx^s and a house on Barker Hill granted to Thomas Finch, late serjeant at the mace for his good service.

(fo. 112) Also the same day Nicholas Lancaster and John Gilyot, Aldremen, were named and elect to be in the Kings parlement for this Citie as Knights of the same.

fo. 116b.

**Petition from the Mayor and Council to the King
for Letters Patent for the remission of the fee farm.**

To the King our soverain lord.

Sheweth mekely unto your noble Grace your true subgiетts and liegemen the Maier, Citicyns and Communaltie of your Citie of York, that where in your parlement holden at Westminster the vij day of Novembre, the first yere of your moost noble reigne, it was ordayned and stablissed by auctoritie of the same parlement, among othre things, that mcxxi¹¹ iij^s iiij^d shuld be takyn of the fee ferme of the Citie of York, to be applied towards the payment and contentacion ther expensez of your moost honourable houshold by assignement therof to be made by the Thresourour of England for the tyme being, as in the said Act among othre is contigned at large ; and where afterward, moost redoubtid soverain Lord, ye by your graciouse lettres patents, bering dait at Westminster the xviiijth day of Juyn, the first yere of your moost noble reigne, for certain consideracions moving your Grace in the said letters patents specified of your said grace, speciall gaff and graunted to your said subgiетts by the name of Maier and Citicyns of the said Citie and ther successours lx¹¹, yerely to you appertigneing of the said fee ferme of mclx¹¹ (*sic*), to be had and perceyved to the said Maier and Citicyns and ther successours at the fest of Estre and Saint Michael Archangell by evene porcions by hands of the Shereffs of the said Citie for tyme being during your high pleaser, and that as well all Shereffs of the said Citie then being and after to be shuld be, as the said Maier and Citicyns and the Shireffes of the forsaid lx¹¹ yerely ayenst your grace and your

¹ The Franciscan Friary in York occupied the ground between Castle-gate and the Ouse. The great gateway into the Friary stood in Castlegate. Part of the precinct walls and a corner tower facing the Ouse still exist.

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heires shuld be quytt and discharged during your said pleaser ; and further more by the same lettres patents of your said grace, ye remised and released, as well to the said Maier and Citicyns and ther successours as to the said Shereffs and ther successours and to the citicyns of the same Citie, all the residue of the said fee ferme (*fo.* 117) of mclx^{li}, and right and interest which your said Grace than had in the forsaid fee ferme or in any othre fee ferme going out of the said Citie by what soo ever name the said Maier and Citicyns wer named, ayanst your Grace nor charged during your said pleaser . . . alwey to your grace, your heyres and successours of the said fee ferme xvij^{li} v^s and by the same lettres patents your said Grace willed and graunted further that as well the said Maier and Citicyns and ther successours, as the Shereffs of the said Citie the which then wer or afterward shuld be and the Citicyns of the said Citie and ther successours during your said pleaser of the said hool fee ferme and evere parcell therof and of evere fee ferme going out of the same Citie except onely the said xvij^{li} v^s ayenst you, your heires and successours as above is said, shuld be quytt and discharged as in the said lettres patents more is contigned at large. The which lettres patents by cause of the said act made in your said last parlement for the said household ar to the said Maier and Citicyns voide and of none effect. Wherfor your Highnesse that it may please the same most doubted soverain Lord by thadvise of your lords spirituall and temporall and comons in this present parlement assembled and by auctoritie of the same to ordane, stablysshe and enact that your said lettres patents may be good, effectual and vaileable in the law to the said Maier and Citicyns and ther successours according to the tenour and purport of the same and frome the dait of the said lettres patents, notwithstanding the said Act of parlement made for your honourable houshold, or any othre act made in the tyme of your moost noble reigne, and that the said act of parlement and all (*fo.* 117b) tales and assignements maid by reason of the said acte of household and all othre acts made in the tyme of your said moost noble reigne towching the fee ferme of the said Citie, or any part thereof, be as to the said fee ferme onely fro the tyme of the making of the same act or acts, exept the reservacion of xvij^{li} v^s be void and adnulled and of none effect and stand of noone strenghe or virtue.

fo. 122b.**Members of Parllament for the City.**

31 December, 1487. *Present*—Robert Hancock, Mayor, 9 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 8 Councillors.

In the Counsell Chambre upon Ouse Brig . . . The Kings writ for the somenes of his high court of Parlement was opened, red and forsomuch as after the recept of the said writ ther is noon countie tofore the first day of the said parlement therfor all above

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of oon assent and consent and for the Kings high pleaser and also for that at noon lettrez shalbe put unto, the Cite hath nominate and chosen to be cocitesynes for the Cite at the said parlement, the right wirshipful sirs, Sir Richerd York and Sir William Todde, knyghts.

And also the same day it was determyned and agreid that ther shalbe thre lettres written and maid for the abatement of the tax, to my lord Chaunceler, my lorde Tresorer, and to the lorde Privey Seall.

fo. 119b.¹**The Council and the Franciscan Friary.**

Monday, 21 January (1487-8). *Present*—Sir William Todd, Mayor, 5 Aldermen, 1 Sheriff, 10 Councillors.

Assembled togader in counsaill. Where the Frerez Minours of this Citie here er bounden in certain writings undre the provinciall seall of the ordour and the common seall of ther place here unto the Maier and Commonaltie of the same and ther successours to sing within ther church yerely for ever ij solempez obits with dirige, masse and ther holy suffragez used in that behalve, as well for the good stait and welfare of the Maire and Commonaltie liffig, as thelth of all the soulez of the same past hertofore and hereafter to passe unto the mercy of almighty God ; and in simlable wise the said Mayre and Commonaltie er bounden under ther commune seall for doing of the said obitts to pay unto the said Frerez and ther successours yerely at either of the said obits x^s in money, for nowne payment wherof, and also for the forfeit of a payne of x^{ls} in that behalve, it is specified in the said writing amongs othre things that it shalbe leful unto the said Frerez and ther successours or the gardian of ther place for the tyme being within iij days after either of the said obitts upon a resonable requisicion of the said money to enter and distreyne in and upon any rent belonging unto the Commonaltie here and to take suffisant distresse for the same, which clause of distresse was thoght by my lord Maier and all my Masters abovesaid to streyt ayenst² the said Commonaltie, and by liklyhode shuld cause some division and debate to arise within the said Citie if any such entre shuld be maide and distresse takyn within any tenement belonging to the Comons forsaid by the said Warden and Frerez. In awarding therfor of such jugements and appesing commocions to be had hereafter in that partie, it was by my said Lord and Maisters with good deliberacion (fo. 120) determyned that if it shall fortune at any tyme, as God diffend, the sum of xx^s to be paid by eveneporcions unto the said Wardens and Frerez by thands of the Chamberleyens of this Citie, for the tyme being, immediately after the massez of the said obitts upon the high alter ends within ther

¹ This document is out of place in the MS.

² To streyt ayenst ; to bring into a strait.

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church to be behynd unpaide, in part or in hole by the said Chamberleyens, and in ther defalt by the space of iij days, if they be demaunded the same by the said Wardan and Frerez, the said peyne of xl^s shall ryn in the charge of the Maire and Chamberleyens, that tyme being, and they to pay the same without eny entre or distresse taking therfor of any of the Common rents of the said Citie.

fo. 129. **The King needs soldiers. Repair of the City walls.**

Monday, 22 April 3 Hen. VII (1488). *Present*—Robert Hancock, Mayor and 23 others.

Letter from the Earl of Northumberland.

I have auctorite, commaundement from the Kyngs highnes to prepare . . . men, archers, for aide to be had to the Kyng . . . for wags and for the same to understand of you . . . other gentlemen, what men ye woll make redy to . . . the said wags towards the accomplisshement of the Kyngs mynde in that bihalve, and theropon that I may be asertayned from you in all hast possible as ye entend . . . please of the Kyngs highnes.¹

Item the same day it is agreid by thassent and consent of all above that Thomas Thirland shalbe recontent of x^{li} which by hym is laid down to the reparacions of the wallez according to theeffect and ordynaunce therof maid to hym or his assignez in that behalf.

fo. 130. **Letter from the King.**

17 June 3 Henry VII (1488). *Present*—R. Hancock, Mayor, 9 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 7 Councillors.

A lettre² . . . by the Kings grace direct to the Maior and Shereffs of this Citie, which lettre is registerd in the xviiij leife tofore preceeding, and upon that it was thoght necessary the same lettre to be red tofore the seircheours of this Citie shortlie for certain consideracions.

Books II, III, IV.³

fo. 196. **Unfounded charge against a Councillor.**

3 Henry VII (1488).

Mem. that the xixth day of Juyn in the counsell chaumbre of Ouse brig tofore Robert Hancok, Maire, Richerd York, knyght, and other of the Counsell, cam personalie Thomas Scotton, oon of the xxiiij in his propre person, and thare and then shewed howe that it was said unto hym by the right wirshupful Sir William Todd, knyght, that there shold be a grevouse complaynt maid upon hym to Sir John Turberville, knyght, that the said Thomas Scotton and his wiffe shold wrongfully defame and slaunder oon

¹ Part of this entry is illegible.

² The King's letter is not to be found.

³ The volume of the House Book numbered 2, 3, 4, contains documents of various dates in the reigns of Richard III and Henry VII.

Books II, III, IV.

Richerd Beryman, late servaunt to the said Thomas, saing at the same Richerd shold be a theiffe, for the which wrongful defame and sclaunder the said Sir William Todd shewed how that the said Sir John Turbervile wrote unto hym a letter, shewing unto hym in the same at the said Richerd had complenyd to the Kyngs grace and hym upon the said Thomas Scotton, with and without it wer so that the said Thomas Scotton in the premisseyd couth excuse hym the said Richerd wold have meanez that by prively seall he shold have the said Thomas to appere in London, or els in other placez tofore the King or his counsell; and upon that the said Thomas Scotton answerd and said that he had mervell how that eny such sugestion or compleynt shold be shewed or layd ayanest hym, for he never ne his wife eny such sediciouse words had ayanest the honestie, gude name or fame of the said Richerd, for bot that if eny man wold say or lay eny things of untreuth ayanest the same Richerd, that he for his treuth wold be the first man to depose upon a buke for hym, and that to fulfill tofore the said Robert Hancok, Maior, Sir Richerd York and others; the same Thomas Scotton maid, uncoact, solempne othe to be redy at all tyme; and over that he to be and stand hereafter gude maister to the said Richerd Beryman and to do for hym in eny thing lefull to the uttermost of his power.

And upon that the said Richerd Beryman, hering the said Thomas Scotton, late his maister, so curtaslie shewing and saing upon hym tofore the said presence humblye thanked his said maister of his saing and furthwith desired hym of gude maistership, and thare and then the said Richerd Beryman, uncoact of his own mere will shewed that he never knewe with his said maister Thomas Scotton bot a man of gude and true dealing to God, the King and all other his neighbours, and that he is and wolbe redy hereafter at all tyme that to approve. And so the forsaid parties tofore the said prescence, of all maner of debats, accions, querells and all other things whatsoever myght be founding to eny disluffe or discorde betwix the said parties from the begynnyng of this world unto this present day, be ful and faithful frends eyther to other which God contynue.

Books II, III, IV.

fo. 201.

Petition of the Marshalls and Smiths.

Unto oure worshippfull lorde the Maire of the Cite of York, our worshippfull maistirs the Aldermen and Councell of the same.

Humblye besecheth your worshippfull lordeshipp and all your worshippfull meistirshippes, the marshalles¹ and smythes of the cite of York, that where it hath been of auncheant tyme acostomed to this day as it is registred in the Maire bukes that the

¹ The ordinances of the marshalls and smiths are given in the *York Memorandum Book*, vol. II, p. 180.

Books II, III, IV.

marshalls, smythes and bladesmythes hath been all way a hole crafte and contributarie to all charges to gidder to the sustentacion of ther two pageants and ther torches at Corpus Christi light and to the mayntenynge of the wershippfull lyghts and honorable servise of Seynt Loye in Seynt William Chapell on Ouse brygg, except bladesmythes that makes cutler ware and no mor and so these bladesmythes and the cutlers to doo serche, that is to say, bastards, dagars and grose ware and so the said cutlers and ther bladesmythes wald tak uppon thame to serche our occupacions that thai have in undrestandynge us and also thai labor to tak frome us the bladesmythes whiche be admitted to oure fellishippe to be pageant meistirs and serchoures with thame to the utter undoyng and confusion of our said charges that we are there bounden to mayntene, which premisses tenderly consideryd and at reverence of god and seynt Loye that we may have our said bladesmythes to be of our fellishipp to the mayntenynge of our said charges as wele of Corpus Christi light and Seynt Loye light and oure pageantes as thai have been tofore of aunceant tyme, or els we be not abill to sustene ne mayntene oure said grete charges as god knaweth.

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fo. 130b. **The Archbishop of York asked for help in the matter of the King's tax.**

Letter from the Mayor, Sheriffs, Aldermen & Common Council to the Archbishop of York.

Most reverend fader in God, etc. . . . Sir, pleas it youre gude lordship to have knowlage that considering nighnes of tyme of payment of the oon half endell of the tax, late graunted to our sovereyn lorde the King, with the fervent desire the which we have to pleas his grace according to our naturall dewts, natwithstanding the greit povertie, ruyne and decaie of this said Citie, wherby we have be the rather induced to mak effectuell levy of the said tax, and therfor also hath put it in reall suretie to be had wher the case shall require of the oon partie, and on the other partie, callyng to mynde the common opynion of men here supposing that our said sovereygn lorde of his greit benignitie wol remit and fully pardon us and other of this north parties the same tax with that also that we be credible enformed that in the cuntries abouts us here as yit no levy is maid of the same ; we have for thexecucion of certain thyngs consernynge the publiquiance (*sic*) wele of this your Citie emongs whom we have desired hym of the consideracons above writen to be mean to the Kings grace or som of his most noble Counsell that we may have perfite knowlage of the pleaser of his said grace in the premissez, whether disposed to have redy payment of the said tax or to have it kept in our hands to his pleaser forther understand in that behalf, or if it shall so content his hghnes, which god graunt nowe, to pardon the same, which

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we trust his grace wolbe inclinid as favour to do unto us in consideracon of the said povertie, ruyne and decaie, as unto eny other his sugetts in these parties ; wherfor we in our most humblie wise besecheth your gude lordship, not onelie by your most honorable lettres to be direct to the Kings grace or some of his most noble Counsell . . . to labor for theeffectuall accomplisshement of our said desire but alsoe to shoue unto the said berer your best advise in that behalf for the conforth and suretie of us in the same, wherby as herbifore ye have don in great things ye shall surelie fasten us and the pore inhabitants here to your contynauall service.

22 day of Juyn.

fo. 131.

Letter to the Recorder about the Tax.

Right wirshupful Sir, we recomend us unto you, desiryng yow to call unto your remembraunce how we tofore this hath writen unto you, showing the greit decaie, ruyne and povertie of the Citie of York and the Kings sugetts in the same, we doubt not bot ye understand the same, no man better . . .¹ The cause of this our writing to you at this tyme is this ; we prepare . . . in gadering of the Kings tax by the comaundement of his collectours more largelie and hastelie than the cuntre doeth, for the which the hole Commonaltie and the Kings sugetts aforsaid marveles much . . . they trust remembering thare greit povert the King of his most benevolent grace wold be as gude and gracious lorde unto them, and to . . . to any other place within this his realme, for which cause and for all our wels we hertlie desire and pray you to be gud mean for us all unto the said kings Grace, so that we myght understand his gracious mynde, for we ben as fereful for his grace displeaser as eny other his sugetts within this his realme ; wherfor, Maister Recorder, howe we shalbe demeaned in the premissey we hertily desire and pray you of your most best and faithfull advise and counsell . . . in hast from Yorke the xxiiij of J . . .

By the Maiour, Sheriffs, Aldermen and Counsell of the Citie of York.

fo. 133.

The opening of the common land.

Sunday during the festival of St. Mathew (1488).² *Present*—Robert Hancock, Mayor, The Recorder, 9 Aldermen, 2 Shereffs, 11 of xxiv.

Agreed that all tha that have eny closyng or other holding within this Liberty closed, and aght at this Michaelmesse next to be laid open in peseable wise, that the fermours opyn ther yatts of thare furmolds to thentent that no hurt be don upon the

¹ Certain words in this document are illegible.

² St. Matthew's day is 21 September.

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whikfall¹ belonging to the same, and also that noon inconvenient efter that ne groge be had to the said fermours by eny cocitesyn of this said wirshupfull Citie bot by reason of the openyng the cocetyens to have thare common.

fo. 133b.

Monday during the Festival of St. Michael Archangel.²
4 Henry VII (1488). *Present*—Robert Hancock, Mayor, The Recorder, 8 Aldermen, 7 of the Council.

Determynd and comaundet that such common as the Commonaltie of this Citie of right aght to have in the Tangfeld and other that the same Commonaltie shall in pesable wise withoute eny insurrecion or riot kepe ther possession and at the common Serjants shall in curtaswise go to every fermour and keper of every close and other and shewe thame that this present day at xij of the klok is opyn the yats of there fermolds to thentent that the Commonaltie may enter into the same to have ther common according to ther right.

fo. 134b. **The Mayor and Sheriffs advised to pay the whole
of the tax for York, and trust to get relief afterwards.**

To the Mayor & Sheriffs.

Right worshupful I recomend me unto you, and like it you to wit I have receyved your lettrez and also had the credence shewed unto me on your behalve by my frende Vavasour, your Recorder; and when . . .³ this tyme the Kings grace is content and paid by you of that oon half of the tax for the Citie of York except xxx¹¹ whereof ye desire to have alowaunce . . . therunto it haith not been acustomyd that any alouance shuld be had therof unto the ful payment of the hole tax and ye nede not to mystrust the Kings grace highnes therein for he is gracious sovereyn lorde unto you, and so haith ben sith the begynnyng of his noble reyn, and therof . . . every service that I can do for you and the wele of the said Citie I wold be right glad after my litell power to do.

At Westminster the xiiij day of Octobre,

Your Dynham.

fo. 135b.

Sir Richard York to go to London.

19 October 4 Hen. 7 (1488). *Present*—Robert Hancock, Mayor, 8 Aldermen, 4 of the xxiv.

Determynd of oon assent and consent that right wirshupfull Sir Richerd York, knyght, shold ride up to London to this great and honorable Counsell now to be holden in Westminster the xth day of Novembre next commyng according to thentent of

¹ Whikfall; ?

² St. Michael's day is 29 September.

³ Some words in this letter are illegible.

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Kings lettres missives direct to the Maiour, his brether Aldermen, and of the Common Counsell of the same Citie, as in the same lettres more planelie doeth appere, taking upon the day to his costs and charges vij^s during the season that he shall attend upon the said Counsell.

fo. 139.

Unauthorized opening of City gates.

4 February (1488-9). *Present*—Robert Hancock, Mayor, 6 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 11 of the xxiv.

. . . it was opened and shewed by the mouth of the said Robert Hancock, Maior, that where he upon Saynt Blaise¹ day in the mornynge sent John Sponer, oon of the serjants to the maie, comaunding hym for to go to Boutham barre and to shet the greit yats of the same and to leve opyn the wekid therof, to thentent that the Kings people myght have ther passage and repassage; and ther opyn the same John went to the same barre and fulfilled the Maiour comaundment, and opyn that efter the said greit gats so shet and Thomas Wandesford, gent., with othre with hym cam and toke the keis withoute licence of the same officer and opynned the same gats; and for that offence furthwith the said Thomas Wandesford was sent for, cam personalie tofore the said presence and the premissez laid unto hym by the mouth of Thomas Asper, he answered and said that he with John Metcalfe and othre went towards the barre of Boutham, he seyng the barre stokyn demaundit John Sponer what was the reason the barre was stokyn, he answered and said that it was the Maires comaundment; the same Thomas seinge keis lying upon a stall, not ben verelie knowlige that they werre the keis of the barre, toke them in his hands and John Metcalf incontynent toke thame upon hym and openyd the barre and left the same keis steking in the lok and that don John Sponer resumyd the same keis and broght tham unto the Maire (fo. 139b). And ther the same Thomas Wandesford shewing that he remembred that the taking of the keis was done of a oversight, for the which oversight he offerd hym to abide the corecon of the Maior, Aldermen and the Common Counsell, the which Maior and Counsell determynd that lesse couth nat be doon for his oversight bot to be punysshed by way of imprisonment, and upon that he was comyt to prison, and ther to abide unto the tyme the Maiour and Counsell be otherwise advised and at his commyng furth to lay sufficient suretie of his gude beryng.

fo. 140.

Royal Proclamation for keeping the peace on the Mayor's election day. The process of election.

Tuesday during the festival of St. Blaise (1488-9). *Present*—5 Aldermen, one Sheriff, 12 of the xxiv.

¹ St. Blaise's Day is 3 February.

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In the guildhall. John Harper chosen Mayor.

The same day a royal proclamation was read at three places in the city, 1 ad stallago,¹ 2, at the gate of the Guihald, 3, within the Guilhald . . . as follows.

Oiez ! Oiez ! Oiez ! we charge and comaund in the Kings name, our most redoubted sovereign lige Lorde, the Maiour and Shireffs of this Cite that no man of what estate or degre he be of tak upon hym to go defensable arraied this day within this same Cite, be it estraunger or fraunchest man, contrarie the keping of the Kings peax, bot that every estraunger leve his wapyn at his innez, and not to entermeit hym and thame of the elecon of the Maiour of this Cite, this day to be had, according to the Kings graunts and the auncient customs of the said Cite ; and that every fraunchest man go in peseable wise withoutte harnesse or defensable wapyn unto the Common Hall and ther to determyn hym according to theeffect of the same graunts and a conservacon of the Kings peace, and that noon unfraunchest man presume ne tak opan hym to enter the Common Hall ne entermeit hym of the said elecon upon payn of imprisonment and forfating of his goods and his body at the Kings will.

(fo. 140b) On Friday, that is to say, the xxiiij^d day of Januare the iiijth yere of the reign of our sovereign lige lorde King Henry the vijth, in the Guyhall of this Cite, according unto the auncient custom of the same, the right wirshupful Sir, Robert Hancok, Maiour of the said Cite, comaundet his vj serjants to the Maise to gif warnyng to every serchour to appere afore hym ther the same day, the sercheours roule was callid, and the sercheours appering the said Maiour lainge to paine that the day of ther elecon aproched nere, willing thame that they and every of thame to common with his craft in lovyng wise to thentent that such a wirshupful man, the which by the grace of God upon Saynt Blaise day they shold determyn to be ther Maior for the yere ensuyng, myght be had and doon in peseable and lovyng wise withoute noise or cry, first to the pleaser of God, the King and the content of the mynd of that said wirshupful man at that day of Saynt Blaise shalbe elect ther chosyn Maiour, and according to the Kings gracious lettres patents in that behalf to the cocitesyns of this Cite graunted, layng unto thame over that that if eny person or persones be disposed to the contrarie they shold be put in suretie to the Kings grace understode ther demenaunce and to knowe forther his high pleaser, and upon that charged thame the premisses to be fermelie kept in the Kings name, our sovereign lorde.

And the Tuysday the said Friday next ensuying eftsonez the said Robert Hancok, Maior, in his propre person for certain causez and for the conservacon the Kings peax in the said Guyhall being, and ther and then the said seircheours appering afore hym

¹ Ad stallago; where the stalls are in the Pavement.

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to thame shewid and declared howe that it was doon hym to understand that ther was some private personez which intendit to the disturbaunce of goode and peseable reull, for the tranquilite and peace he willed thame to common togydder ther and then or they departid in lovyng and peseable wise, and soch communicacon as they at that tyme had emongs thame myght be writen and sealed, and the counsaill of ther communicacon myght be kept so writen and sealed to the said Saynt Blaise day, and then to be openyd and shewed to thentent that he that shold that day be elect (*fo.* 141) Maiour myght have it with a hole and peseable mynde, first in the pleaser of the King and conservacon of his peace, and also to the content of hym that shalbe so chosen and elect to be ther Maiour that day, that to be observed and first fulfilled the said Maiour comaundet two of his Chamberleyns that is to say, Peris Cooke and John Petty and also Thomas Davyson to giff ther attendaunce upon the said seircheours, which according to the same they did.

***fo.* 141b. The Sheriff of Yorkshire committs a breach of the rights of the City.**

13 February (1488-9). *Present*—R. Hancock, Mayor & 13 others.

The Mayor reminded the Council that on February 4 Thos. Wandesford appeared in the matter of the keys of Bootham Bar, for which he was committed to prison. He was three days in the Sheriffs prison & then put in surety to come before the Council this day. He appears & pleads that he has been sufficiently punished, "trusting forther they wilbe his goode masters and to that he humblie besecheth thame." He is bound in a sum of 100*£*.

(*fo.* 142). Memorandum the viij day of March the iiijth yere of the reign of Kyng Henry the vii it was shewed to the right wirshupful Sir, John Harper, Maior, that by the comaundement of Sir Marmaduc Constable, Knyght, and Shireff of Yorkshire, contrarie the libertiez and fraunchesse of this Cite, comaundet by force of his office of the said Shirefwyk oon Sir, William Thwyng, gentilman, beyng present tofore the said Shireff in his loging than being loged in the Prior of Bridlington within Aldwerk within the Cite of Yorke, to the Castell, thare surelie to be kept for such matter at that tyme hym movyng for the arrest and comaundement of the Shireff aforesaid; the said right wirshupful Sir, John Harper, Maiour, sent Humfrey Maners, the berer of the gylt maise, unto the said Shireff, shewing hym that contrarie the said libertiez and graunts etc that it hath ben shewed to the Maior that he hath comaundet the said William Thwyng to the Castell etc shewing hym that withoute that be refourmyd and he restoryd to the officers of the Cite of York it wilbe compleynynd unto the Kings Jugs being at the Assise and gaole delyvere next assigned

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at Yorke of Monday in the secund weke of Lent. The said Shirelf, understanding the said message and that he had overseen hym self in his said comaundement contrarie the said graunts and libertiez, graunted withoute eny forther compleynt to delyver the said William Thwyng to the officers of the said Cite and over that to shewe hymself to the said Maiour at his pleasour to amend the said his oversight and defalt. And apon that the xiiij day of this present moneth of March the said Sir Marmaduc Constable, Shireff, delyverd the body of the said William Thwyng oute of the Castell to John Sponer and Roland Robson, serjants to the maise, and they at that tyme so being charged with the body of the said William Thwyng delyvered hym to the keping of the Shireffs of York in conservacion of the same graunts and libertiez.

fo. 142b. **Deputation to the Earl of Northumberland.**

Monday during the festival of St. Julian¹ (1488-9). *Present*—R. Hancock ; Mayor and 19 others.

It is agreid, according to a peticon this same day presentid by bill, that immediatelie after the commyng home of the right noble lorde, Therle of Northumbreland, that two or thre with other accompenyd shall ryde unto his said lordship, shewing hym the mynds of the Communaltie of this Cite laid and shewed in the said bill, and to thentent his lordship, if ther be eny mysreporte maid unto hym, may be acertanyd of the trueth.

fo. 144. **Letter from the King.**

24 February (1488-9). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, 5 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 14 of the xxiv.

In the Guildhall. The Kings lettrez missyves was shewed closed to hym, his bretheren Aldermen and the Commonaltie direct, which shortlie after the same day was disclosed and openlie red . . . to fore the the hole Commonaltie.

fo. 144b. **Seditious Words.**

(3 March 1488-9).

Mem. the third day of March, the iiij yere of the reign of King Henry the vij, . . . oon Robert Slater, milner, commit to prison for certan sediciouse language by hym uttered and said under the forme following :—the said Robert confessed that or ever he sawe the right wirshuful Sir, John Harper, Maiour, that he emongs feliship wher he sat shold shew and say emongs thame that he was fraunchest, and the day of his fraunchessing the said Maiour shold question hym where he dwelt and he answered and said, withoute Boutham, the Mayour shold answer and say—thou art oon of thame that was ayanest me ; well, I shall bring you

¹ St. Julian's day is 16 February.

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in then by oon and oon ; and this same day eftsonez the Maiour sent for the said Robert and was broght in by Robert Wallez, the gaoler, and ther and then the said Maiour being in the Counsell Chaumbre and with hym present the Chamberleyns, the Maister of the Taillours and other the said humble besoght the said Maiour to be his good and tender lorde and to forgyve hym of his great defalt ; and at the request of the Maiour, said Maister of the Taillours and othre the said Robert was dismissed of prison.

fo. 145. **Disturbances at the Mayoral Election.**

5 March (1488-9). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, 8 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

At this day John Vavasour, Sir Richerd York. — Todd by force of the credence yeven unto theme . . . the King as touchyng his most noble mynd . . . his letters direct lately unto the Maior, Aldermen and Communaltie of this Citie shewed the the Kings mynd was to have due examinacion made of the . . . maid at thellecion of the said Maiour . . . as shalbe founden to be punyshed accordyng to his lawes.¹

fo. 145b. **Letter sent to the Earl of Northumberland.**

6 March (1488-9). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor and 15 others.

It was decided that a letter should be sent to the Earl of Northumberland "as wele shewyng hym the mynds of the cocety-syns by them put in to the Maior, Aldermen and the Common Counsaill, by bill of Saynt Julian day last past as othre concernyng the publique wele of the said Citie, and also shewing unto his said lordship the reule and guyding of the elecon of the Maiour upon Saynt Blaise day last."²

fo. 147. **The election disturbance.**

19 March (1488-9). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, 7 Aldermen, 1 Sheriff, 5 of the xxiv also Willelmus Eure, miles, Gerevall Clyfton, miles, Johannes Pickering, miles—de consilio Comitibus Northumbriae and Edwardus Redeman, Willelmus Babthorp, Willilemus Chaumberlyn, Brianus Palmes—legis periti.

In the Counsaill Chambre within the Guydhall of the Cite of Yorke ; and ther and then it was shewed by the right wirshupfull, Sir Richerd York, knight, and Sir William Todd, knight, the credence the which was comaunded thame to shewe by the Kings grace unto the Maiour and Commonaltie of this Cite, as toching the unkyndlie deling of the cocitesyns at ther elecon apon Saynt

¹ The above is partly illegible.

² The Earl's reply was read at a meeting of the Council on 10 March. The contents of the reply are not given.

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Blaise day last past, as in the Kinges gracious lettrez missives more planelie doeth appere, which they shewed in nowise the Kings grace woldnot bot that to be penysshed, and apon that for the correcon of the same the Kings grace shewed forther unto theym he wold have a commission to be direct unto the moost reverend fadder in God tharchiebisshop of York, Therle of Northumberland and othre, to juging to thentent his highness may be ascertanyd upon the said dealing; and upon that the said Counsaill of this Cite every man by hym self was examyned as toching the said Commission; they and every of thame determyned it werre necessarie according to the Kings mynde and pleasour to have the same not to be labored at the request ne pursuyte of the said Maiour and Counsaile in enywise, bot at it myght be at the request of the said moost reverend fadder in God; and that to be doon, the said Sir Gervax Clyfton and Sir John Knyghts (*sic*) offerd thame self to mak labor to the said moost reverend fadder in God so that the right wirshupful Sir Richerd York and Sir William Todd, knyghts, wold do the labour to go with thame, unto the which they agreid, the said Maiour and Counsaill shewing and sayng that the same labour ne suyt not to be in ther namez.

fo. 147b.

Collection of the King's tax.

. . . March. *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, Recorder, 6 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

It was shewed by the mouth of the Recorder that he had commoned with Thomas Wandesford, gent., oon of the collectours of the Kings tax, and the same Thomas shewed unto hym so that he myght have a reward and also that he may have sufficient suretie for his discharge, he wolde of gude will to delyver all such money as he hath in his hands of the secund half tax.

fo. 148.

Unruly behaviour.

28 March, 1489.

Be it in mynde the xxviiij day of Marche the iiij yere of the reigne of King Henry the seventh, cam personalie tofore John Harper, Maiour; within his mancion place oon Brian . . . , dier, and shewyd unto the said Maiour howe he being in Godds peax and the Kings . . . was walking in a strete called Ousegate. John Barrewdale, cordwener, met hym and shewid shortlie unto hym, saing, I owe the a stripe; the said Brian answerd and said unto hym, I owe the noon, and sodenlie stroke hym with his fyst upon the eire and after that cast hym under his fete saing that he shold strike hym through with his dagger and than left hym at that tyme withoute more hurt, sayng unto hym that at thare next metyng he shold pay hym better; the said Brian seing his sayng desired the said Maiour that he myght be and stand in rest, and

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upon that the Maiour sent Roland Armorer, oon of the yoman serjants to the maise, for the said Barrewdale, he being in John Sponer house, saing unto hym—ye must com unto the Maiour; he answerd and said, he wold not, and so the same John Barrewdale departed from thense and went to Mitford taverne; the said Roland understode that and fillod hym to the same tavern, and ther oon Thomas Smyth, cordwener, become suretie for the same John Barrewdale to bring unto the Maiour at what tyme he wold send for hym and in the mean season cam diverse cocitesyns unto the Maiour, shewing unto hym thai wold not suffre such reule at ther neighbour so to be bet, and for inconvenients that myght fall by reason of the same, the said Maiour went unto the said tavern with his fellship for the same John Barrewdale and ther sent the same Roland unto hym to bid hym com to hym, and the same Roland fulfilled the Maiours commaundement and cam to the same Barrewdale, he being in a chaumbre, saing unto hym—my lord Maiour is at the tavern dore and woll that ye shal com to speke with hym and he shortlie answerd and said he wold not and upon that drugh his dagger and wold aben upon the said officer; he seing that stirt bak and for his suretie drugh his knyfe and so arrested the same Barrewdale, and broght hym to the said Maiour and for his disaveing¹ the said Maiour commyt hym unto the prison ther to abide unto the tyme he fynd suretie of his goode bering.

fo. 149b.

The Earl of Northumberland killed.

28 April 1489. *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, and 16 others.

At the which day assembled, oon Thomas Fisser, taillour, comyng, as he said in all gudelie hast from Thrisk and ther and then shewing that affray was this same day in a place beside Thrisk and ther and then, as he said, my lord of Northumberland takyn and hurt by certain² Commons of the cuntrie ther abouts, for the suretie of this Cite it is determyned and proclamacon shalbe maid for the King in diverse partiez within the same.

fo. 150.

The rising of the Commons; precautions taken.

29 April, 1489. *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, The Recorder, 8 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

For suretie, tuicion and keping of the Kings Cite the Maiour comaundet every Alderman and othre of the xxiiij in the Kings name, our sovereyn lige Lorde, that noon of thame departe oute of this Cite unto the tyme the Kinges mynde be forthre understond, and that as they woll answer to the King at thare perell and the imprisoment of ther bodys.

¹ Disaveing; misbehaviour.

² On 28 April the Earl of Northumberland was murdered at Cocklodge near Thirsk.

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Item, the same day it is aggreid and determyned that in continent ther shall thre sharp men ryde into the cuntrie in thre parties abouts this Cite to understand the demeanance of the Commons and in all goodlie hast to certefie the Maiour and the Counsaill to thentent the Kings highnesse may be adcertayned of ther demeance and this parfitelie and truelie understondet ; it is determyned that Richerd Burgh, esquire, shall ryde and shew that to the Kings grace in all hast possible.

Item the same day it is agreid that the Maiour shall send unto thabbot of Saynt Mary, the mynster, Saynt Leonards, the foure ordres of Freris that they be redy with such felliship as they may mak redy in defensable arrey for keping of this Cite as they woll answer to the King.

fo. 150b.

3 May¹ (1489).

It had been decided that Richard Burgh, serjant to the King, should ride to the King for certain matters ; two men were to go with him, one of whom was to return and report the Kings mind. The Council is greatly indebted to him & makes him a grant of vi marks.

fo. 151. **Sir Marmaduke Constable and 13 of his retinue
admitted to the Cite.**

3 May² in the afternoon (1489). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 14 of the xxiv.

It was determyned forsomuch as tofore this it was com-
aunded that what estate commyng with people to the nombre of
iij^e or under in Kings name shall upon the light of the day that he
may have tyme and laser convenient to passe furthe of the Cite
to other placez for loging and relevyng of his people and no longer
to terry except he com with such nombre or othre ayainst nyght
and of the morowe at a convenient tyme to depart. It was so
that the right wirshupfull Sir Marmaduc Constable, Knyght, and
Shireff of Yorkshire, for certan consideracions hym movyng, and
for that at he is the Kings officer within the Countie of Yorkshire,
and that he wold have concourse unto the Kings castell of York
to execute things consernyng his office, desirid by his message
that he myght of my lord Maiour, Aldermen and other the Com-
mon Counsaill have license to com and loge within this Cite havyng
resorting to the said Castell it was by the said presence that he
shold be accept and takyn to the nombre of ix personez or under
and at his commyng forthre to have comunicacion with hym.

¹ In the text "April."

² In the text "April."

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fo. 151b.

Letter from the King.

The Council decides to admit Lord Clifford into the City with 100 men. The Commons refuse to admit them.

4 May (1489). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, 8 of the 12, 2 Sheriffs, 10 of the xxiv.

The Kings gracious lettres missives was direct to the Maiour and his brethern, Aldermen, being date at his castell of Hertford, the third day of May, which lettre was opynlie red in the Counsel Chaumbre tofore the said presence, the content wherof with othre was for the tuicion for savegard and keping of this his Cite, as in the same more planelie doeth appere.

Item, a othre lettre was delyverid to the said Maiour and his Brethern from Henry, Lord Clifford, bering date at Skipton, the third day of May, the content wherof was to resorte to this Cite with such othre lords, knyghts and esquirez of the cuntrie the iiij day of this same moneth, and here by the advise of the said Maiour and the Counsail and thame such a sad direcion may be takyn as may stand to the pleasour of God, the King and the suretie of this Cite and the Cuntrie.

Item, efterward the same day the said lettres was red openlie tofore the Commones in the Comon Hall by the advise of the said presence.

Item, the same day in the Counsail Chaumbre it is agreid that where the said Lord Clifford desireth to resorte and be within this Cite as is above rehersed that he shalbe resavyd within the same with a hundreth personez, and to have a sad communicacon here with the Maiour, his Brethern and the Common Counsaill and to rest here for the space of a day and a nyght or more if the Commones will assent and agre unto the same, the which in every braunch was incontinentlie both the lettres openlie red tofore the Commones in the said Hall with also shewed by the mouthez of the Maiour, Sir Richard Yorke and othre, exhorting and movyng thame to the same ; to the which thai wold in nowise agre thame to resave the said Lord Clifford ne noon othre bot at the Maiour, Aldermen, Shireffs and the Commonaltie to kepe the same Cite to the Kings most roiall person.

fo. 152.

**The Mayor and Council refuse to admit
Sir Marmaduke Constable in to the City.**

8 May (1489). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, and 21 others.

At the which day by the said Maiour it was shewed that he had in message from Sir Marmaduc Constable, knyht, Sheriff of Yorkshire that he in the Kings name had warned diverse knyghts, esquirez, and othre gentilmen of the body of Yorkshire to attend upon hym within the Cite of York upon Monday next . . . to thentent that he for the Kyngs pleasour and in subduyng of the

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Kyngs rebells nowe commotyde and assembled within this North parties. To the which it was answered as well by the said presence as the Communes that forsomoch as the Kyngs grace hath sent is gracious letters missives to the Maiour, shewing and comaunding in the same that this his Chaumbre surelie to be kept to the behufe of his most roiall person, and forsomuch as they had denyed the entrie of the Lords Clifford and othere, that in nowise noon othere gentilman of what degre or condicon he be of be suffred to enter this the Kyngs Chaumbre and so all to be excludet and noon to have reule bot the Maiour, Aldermen and the Shireffs.

fo. 153. **Sir John Egremond's request from the Mayor.**

17 May (1489). *Present*—John Harper, Maiour, 9 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 8 of the xxiv.

At the which day ther cam a prest from Sir John Egremond unto the Maiour in All Halowez Church on the Payment shewing unto hym and his brethern that ther myght be prepared shortlie xx pratie¹ men with horsez to attend and go with certan fellowship of his into Richemond Shire, and that not to be failed, as thai wold answer to hym at ther juperdie. Opon the which message the said Maiour sent for the said presence into the said Church, shewing unto thame the said message desiryng thame of ther advise and counsaill in that, apon the which they and every of thame shewed that fosomuch as he had reule and his people here, that to denye hym that thy thought he and his people wold rob the Cite, and if he wold pay ther costs as avoding such juperdies unto the tyme thai myght be better providet, that to graunt hym.

fo. 153b. **Safeguarding the Archbishop of York.**

16 May (1489). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor and 16 others.

It is agreid of oon assent and consent that if these commonez woll in eny wise of ther malice do hurt bodelie to the most reverend fadder in God that they shall with the hole body of the cocitesyns and inhabitants of this Cite put thame endeavour to the resisting of thame.

fo. 154. **Deputation to the Archbishop of York.**

20 May (1489). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, and 22 others.

At the which day assembled for the publique wele of this Cite, determyned that Sir Richerd York, knyght, John Fereby, William Chymney and William Todd, knyght, shal go and common with the most reverend fadder in God tharchiebisshop of York desiring his lordship to be goode lorde and mean for this Citie unto the Kyngs grace.

¹ Pratie men : pretty men, able, skilful men. *N.E.D.*

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fo. 154a.

Two Aldermen to go to the King.

21 May (1489). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, and 12 others.

Determinyd that Sir Richerd York and Sir William Todd, knyghts, shall ride to mete the Kyngs grace shewing to the same the humblynes of the Maiour, his Brethern and the hole body of this Cite with othre things consernyng the publique wele of the same, and also it is determinyd that the said shall have two jakketts of the Kyngs lyveri of sattan, white and grene, contenyng both in the hole iiij yerds and di., and ethre havyng vj serjaunts attending upon hym, and every man havyng a jaket of white and grene cloth, which shalbe boght by the Chaumbreleyns of the common cost.

fo. 155.

**Present to the Archbishop of Canterbury,
Lord Chancellor.**

24 May (1489). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor and 10 others.

Determinyd that the right reverend fadder in God tharchiebisshop of Canterbury and Chaunceller of England shal have a hoggs of clarret wyne and othre of white of the common cost and charge of this Cite, to thentent he to be gode and tender lord to this Cite and to be mean to the Kings grace for the same.

fo. 155b.

Desire for alteration in the election of Mayors.

25 May (1489). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, 9 of the xii, 10 of the xxiv.

Matters laid and shewed for the publique wele of this Cite forsomuch as greit and unkyndlie dealing haith tofor this ben emongs the cocitesyns of this Cite in the elecon of ther Maiour, for the pacifyng of the same, a humblie supplicaccon to be had unto the Kings grace shewing unto the same by thassent of the Commonaltie of this said Cite that the Chartour myght be chaunged, and to thentent thre eslits of thame that be Aldermen and have not ben of thre yers tofore Maiour by the Comones myght be put in, and on of thame by the elecon of the Maiour, Aldermen and the Common Counsaill as thame shall seme most best for the honour and the common wele of this Cite.

Books II, III, IV.

fo. 195.

**The King orders the punishment of two seditious
persons.**

1488.

By the Kyng.

Trusty and welbiloved we grete you wele. And forsomoch as we be credible enfourmed that Thomas Sturgeon and William Uillemot of that our Citie of York have uttred of thair great untreuth and contrarie to thare naturall dueties of ligeance certain

Books II, III, IV.

sedicious and obprobrius language ayanest our magestie roiall, for the which we ne may suffre thaym to passe unpunysshed. Therfor we woll and in the stratest wise commaund you, considring that ye be our lieutenaunt ther, that upon the next market day after the recept of these oure lettres ye doo oon of thayme to be sette upon the pilorie for a certan season, and both his eers to be cut of and afterward to be committed to prison thare to remaign withoute baille or maunprise till ye undrestand our forther pleaser in that behalve ; and that on the second market day ye doo like execucion to the othre his felawe, in evident knowlige of thare grevouse offenses and to the ferefull example of othre that wool enforce thaym semblably to behave thaym hereafter, not levinge this our speciall commaundement undoon as ye wool avoide oure high displeaser and answer therfor unto us at your uttermost perell. Yeven undre oure signet at our castell of Windsor the last day of May.

To our trusty and welbiloved the Mair and Shireffs of our Citie of York.

Book VI.

fo. 157.

Defence of the City. The common of Tang Hall.

5 June (1489). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, and 17 others.

The Kyngs comaundment was shewid by the mouthez of the said Maiour and Sir Richerd York, the content wherof was, that in all gudelic hast provision to be maid for the preparing of this Cite, that is to say in makyng sufficientlie ther gats and othre necessarie in implements of wer for the tuicon and savegarde of the same. Wherapon it was ordeyned that ther sholdbe a generall request and labour maid throughoute this Cite for the benevolence of every man according to his haviour¹ to the same and at the utter gats of every barre and ye gats of the posternez to be maid of iren with certan draw briggs as shalbe thoght necessarie, and also diks and walls of the Cite to be clensed by thenhabitants of every warde, begynnyng wher it shalbe thoght most nedeful. Item, it was agreid in consideracon of that Maister Oliver Kyng, the Kyngs Secretary, prebendarie of Fridaythorp, and by reason of the same awner of the Tangfield, the usage of common wherin from the fest of Saynt Michel unto our Lady day in Lent yerelie the cocitesyns of this Cite hath occupied as ther right and yit as well the said Maiour, Aldremen and Counsail of the same Cite as the forsaïd cocitesyns clamez as ther right and dewtie of the Cite in that behalf, hath promised in all causes and suts of this Cite to be maid unto the Kings highnes for the tyme to be speciall selistour and lovyng frēde, that if the said cocitesyns during the pleasour of the Maiour, Aldermen and Counsail shall forbere the etage of the said common, suffring the aforsaïd Maister Oliver and his assignez

¹ Haviour : possessions, goods.

Book VI.

in name of a fee in the mean tyme to have and persave the profetts of the same, providet alwey that if the said abstanence and forbering of usage of common aforsaid shalnot be prejudicall to the right of the said Cite and the cocitesyns of the same, bot at they may enjoy the same as far as ther right shall require at such tyme as it shalbe please the said Maiour, Aldermen and Counsaill that the said cocitesyns shall reinjoy the same Common.

Item all gats and posternez every day be shet and opyned ayane by the officers of ye every gate and posterne according to auncient ordynaunce maid therof.

(fo. 158d). Item it is agreid that William Lister and Agnes his wife, within viij days of this present, shall avoid this Cite and suburbs of the same; and the said Agnes not to enter this same at eny tyme hereafter apon payn of imprisonment xl days and efter that she to be burned of both hir cheks with a hote iren in tokenyng of a woman of mysreule and unthriftie guyding.

Books II, III, IV.

fo. 195.

Forfeited Goods.

1489.

By the King.

Trusty and well biloved we grete you wele, and where as we be cridible enfourmed that ye of late have seased and arrested in our names and to our behave foure horses, two quarters of malt, two busschels of whete, foure sakks and foure saddels, which late belonged unto oon Thomas Sturgeon, our rebell, and by his forfatour now unto us justly apperteigne; we late you wite that of our grace especiall for certain consideracons us moeving, we have frelie by way of reward yeven and graunted all the said guds unto our welbelovid servaunt, John Gatton, this berer. Wherefor we woll and straitelie commaund you that ye do mak unto hyme ful and undelayd deliverance of the same according to our said yift withoute faile in every maner wise as ye entend to please us and wol avoid the contrarie, and thes our lettres shalbe unto you suffisaunt discharge anempst us in that behalf. Yeven undre our signet at our castell of Wyndsor, the vij day of Juyn.

To our trusty and welbiloved the Mair and Shireffs of oure citie of Yorke.

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fo. 158.

Money for the defences of York.

11 June (1489). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, 6 of the xij, 1 Sheriff, 7 of the xxiv.

Forasmoch as the Kyngs commaundement is that for tuicon and savegard of this Cite the utter gats of every barre and the posternes be maid of iren for the perfourmyng of the same in all hast, it is determyned and concluded that the warden of every warde shall name and chose within his warde vj well disposed

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personez, which vi personez shall go within ther warde to move the cocitesyns and inhabitants of the same what they of ther benevolence woll yiff to the maiking of the said gatts and posternes of iren.

fo. 159.

Return of unused bows and arrows.

14 June (1489). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, Sir Richard Tunstall¹, 9 of the xii, 1 Sheriff, 9 of the xxiv.

Assembled in the Common Hall of this Cite the Kings com-aundement was shewid by the mouth of Sir Richerd Tunstall, and also the Kyngs gracious lettres under his private seall was direct to the Maiour, Aldermen and the Common Counsaill which ther and then was openlie red tofore the said presence. And over that where certan bowez and arrowez was takyn by price of certan bowers and fletchers within this Cite for the defence of the same, immediatelie after the departour of Sir John Egremond and othre at his retenue, forsomuch as it was at that tyme shewid and said that the said Sir John and othre wold shortlie retourne after the same departour to the Cite ayane and mak a new salt therunto, which they did not, and so the said bowez and arrowez was unoccupied, the said Maiour, Sir Richerd Tunstall, and all othre above rehersed, remembring the great det the which the Chaumbre was in determyned and concludet that every bower and fletcher shold tak ther bowez and arrowez agane, and that every man ther of this Cite that had eythre bowe or arrowez delyvered by the Chaumberleyn, withoute contradiccon, apou payn of imprisonment ther to remaine to thai and every of thame delyver all such bowez and arrowez or els to content for the same after the price.

fo. 159b.

Money for the defences.

3 July (1489). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, Sir Richard Tunstall, 7 of the xii, 2 Sheriffs, 10 of the xxiv.

To the making of the iren gats of ther benevolence and frewill as wele the said Maiour and all the othre above written every man by thame self graunted as wele in iren as in money, as doith appere in a bill of every man, which bill is delyvered to William Tayt, John Shawe and othre to kepe and gadder the same.

fo. 160b.

Defence of the City. Collecting the King's Tax.

7 August (1489). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, The Recorder, 7 of the xij, 1 Sheriff, 6 of the xxiv.

Determyned and concludet that every warden in his warde in all hast gudelie shall se for the preparing of the same as well in gonnez, all othre implements of werre and also to charge that

¹ Sir Richard Tunstall. For a full notice of Tunstall see *The Parliamentary Representation of Yorkshire* (Y.A.S. Record Series, XCI), pp. 213-16.

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every man within the same wards able to have jak, salet, bowe, arrowez and othre defensable wapyne for the tuicon, savegard and keping of this Cite in the Kings behufe if eny case of nede hereafter shal come.

The same day it is agreid that Thomas Wandesford and othre his felowez, collectours of the Kings tax, shall apou Tuesday or Wethenesday next efter this present date come into the Maiour and the Chaumberleyns within this Counsaill Chaumbre bringing with thaym such writings as they have of the Maiour, Chaumberleyns and they to delyver that writing and all such money as is in their hands belonging to the said Tax.

fo. 161.

11 October (1489). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, Sir Richard Tunstall, and 7 others.

Assembled in the Frere Austen¹ it was determyned that the controversie and debate depending betwix Sir Jamez Danby, knyght, and the Commonaltie of the Citie of Yorke toching the common in the Halfeld shall contynue and in all things to the next assise.

fo. 162.

The City's Charter.

6 October (1489). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, Sir Richard Tunstall and 15 others.

Concludet that Maister Haryngton shal ryde up to London as selistour for the Cite in purchessing of the Chartour of the . . .² of the maiour havynge part of his reward to his costwerd . . . the Chaumberleyn at his ryding up. And over that certan . . . to be maid unto certan lords for ther benevolences toching . . . same Chartour to the Kings grace. And over the same . . . at the said Maister Haryngton at his commynge home for his greit . . . and cost over that to be curtaslie entretid.

Every bound wayn commynge to this Cite with eny cariage gere to pay iiij^d to the reparacon of the briggs of Ouse and Fosse, and the pavage of the toun, be it specified in the Chartour or nay.

Item the said lettres to be maid to the Chauncellor, the Privey Seall, Maister Secretaire, the dean of York, Maister Lovell, Maister Bra, The Erle of Oxford, my lord Elie, Erle of Derby.

fo. 162b.

Times of opening and shutting the city gates.

Determyned that from this present forward for the tuicon and savegard of this Cite the barres of the same nyghtlie at ix of the klok to be shet and lokked and openyd every day ayane at 8 of the klok in the mornynge.

¹ The Augustine Friary in Lendal.

² The side of sheet is torn.

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fo. 163b.

Expenses of M.P's.

5 January (1489-90). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, 5 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

Determinyd that Sir Richard York and Sir William Todd, knyghts for the Parliament, shall have and persave of the Chamberleyns all such expenses as belongeth unto thame and ethre of thame by the day, for tyme of ther newlie last being furth at London at the last said Parliament, over the x^{li} yeven unto ther expenses maid at ther going up unto the same.

fo. 166.

Process of electing the Mayor.

(*Blank*) day of January (1489-90). *Present*—John Harper, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

Letters are read from the King about the peacable election of the Mayor, it was determined, "that the Mayor, Aldermen and the Commons of this Cite shall apon Saynt Blaise next assemble in the Yeldhall and ther and then such a Alderman as at that tyme shalbe namyd and chosen, according to theeffect of the said lettres, shall tak his oth the same day tofore all the Commones ther assembled, and so furthwith to occupie the same office for this yere ensuyng.

fo. 167b.

City Fees and rules.

5 February (1489-90). *Present*—John Gilliot, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 16 of the xxiv.

In the Counsaill Chaumbre within the Yelehall. The articles comprehendet in a bill of petition by the Commones was openlied tofore all the presence : and to the first article as in mitigacon of the Maior fe, where it is thoght that the Maire to have bot xx^{li} for keping of his officours, it is shewed that as for lesnyng of the maires fe not to be don bot to stand in ease for the wirshup of this Cite as it hath doon tofore tymes past ; and forthre it is determinyd and finally concludet that ther shalbe an audiet set apon every Mayres compt from the fyrst tyme of the Maioraltie of Sir Richerd York unto this present day, to thentent that such inordynate costs and chargs don and maid within ther days may be understondet and the same expenses so maid to be eased and casten apon thame that hath ayanest conscience so doon. Item, ther it is as wele concludet the Recorder to have xx^d by yere of the Commones and no more. Item, it is forthre determinyd that ther shall no lernyd men from now furth have fe of the Chaumbre, but all to be discharged according to the peticon and this to be shewed to the Commoners.

(fo. 168). The Aldermen and the xxiiij having been summoned by the 6 Common Serjeants at the Mace to the Council Meetings, unless they have reasonable excuse, if they arrive late

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after the Cathedral Clock has struck ten, before a quarter past, to be fined 4^d.

Every alderman and member of the xxiv shall attend the Processional Sermons in the Minster on penalty of 4^d.

This order is to be kept in every Council Meeting hereafter.

Every man to speke in his awn rowme, when he is demaundet by the Maiour for tyme being, and he that interops in speking to that man have said his reason to forfet at every tyme ij^d. Item by all the said presence it is thoght as tochyng the variances in common within certan grounds in divers tyme, the lords of all such grounds to be commoned with to thentent that ther may be a curtas and a lovyng end, and if thay woll refuse a yerelie ferme to the Commones for keping severall those grounds and this to be commoned and laid by all such to the right wirshupful and our especial and singuler gude maister, Sir Richerd Tunstall, Knyght. Item, it is agreid that the Common Clerk for tyme being shall attend upon the Maiour in his awn propre person and not by his deputie, and he to have in wags yerelie of the Commones c^s and all othre casualties. Item it is agreid the vj. serjants every of thame to have xxvj^s viij^d. (fo. 168b). Item, it is agreid that ther be no rewards yeven by yere from this day forwerd to eny minstralls bot to the Kings, and also that ther by no forthre expens maid upon Corpus Christi day bot xlv^s. Item it is agreid that as toching a bill unto two men to be deputed and ordeigned to have oversight of the Common rent belonging to Ouse and Fossbrigs that upon Saynt Gelian day that to be put to the Commones to this entent, if they can fynd of ther mynds two able men they to name thame and els the Counsell that day to go to thellecon of Brigmasters.

fo. 169.

New Recorder.

24 February (1489-90).

Sir John Vavasour, late Recorder, now has been made one of the Kings Judges, William Fairfax is chosen Recorder.

fo. 171.

The Earl of Surrey to be met.

11 March (1489-90). *Present*—John Gilliot, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 13 of the xxiv.

Agreid that my lorde the Maiour as well . . .¹ the Common Counsaill shal in murrey or violet meit the right noble . . . lord Therl of Surrey at Boutham Barre and within . . . his commyng to this Cite at this assise and welcom hym . . . same with reverence according.

¹ Page torn.

Book VII.¹

Book VII. *fo. 4b.*

The Cordwainers to be fined.

16 June 5 Hen. VII (1490). *Present*—John Gilliot, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 10 of the xxiv.

Forsomoch as the cordeweners in the procession of the morowe efter Corpus Christi day were rebell and disobeaut in that according to the proclamacon maid in bering of ther torchiez, and wold not bere thame, thai to forfet the penaltie in the said proclamacon and that to be paid to the behufe of the Commonaltie which ys x^{li}; and for the contentacon therof the Maiour to send for seirchours of the same craft, and for non payment therof to commit the seirchours to prison unto the time it be content.²

fo. 8b.

Expenses of M.Ps.

6 April (1490). *Present*—John Gilliot, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 11 of the xxiv.

Sir Richerd York and Sir William Todd, knyghts for the Parliament, shal have and persave for the tyme of ther first ridyng unto the same Parliament unto the day of ther commyng home every day betwix thame viij^s, and the Communes not forthre to be charged.

fo. 10.

Breaking into the Council Chamber.

Cordwainers punishment upheld.

13 July (1490). *Present*—John Gilliot, Mayor, 11 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 18 of the xxiv.

It was shewid as wel by the mouth of the Maiour as Sir Richerd York, Knyght, the communication and brekyng in the Counsail Chaumbre within the Yeld hall the xiiij day of July ther being present the said Maiour, Sir Richerd Tunstall, Maister Tresorer of the Cathedrall Church of York (and 7 others of the Council). Toching the cordeweners the said presence thiez present day assembled hath fynnal and as oon determyned and concludet that such penaltie by the said cordeweners for ther disobedience in bering of ther torcheis which is x^{li} to be paid, and all such othre punyshment of prison of the said cordeweners for nown payment of the same to be as ther dede and will, and in affirmyng of the same every of thame hath with his owen hand writen his name and marke.

¹ On the first four folios of Book VII the entries on folios 167-8 of Book VI are repeated.

² On the 27 June it is reported that the cordwainers refuse to pay the fine; it is to be levied without delay and the searchers are to remain in prison until it is fully paid. On July 9 the cordwainers sent a petition to the Mayor, but the Council upheld their decision that the x^{li} must be paid. The cordwainers were deprived of their franchise until it was paid.

Book VII.

Writings shall be maid unto the Kings grace, my lords Chauncellor, Therl of Derby and othre that shalbe thoght necessary toching the disobediaunce of the cordeweners and ther riotose dealing.

fo. 10b.

The Affair of the Cordwainers.

16 July (1490). *Present*—John Gilliot, Mayor, 9 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 18 of the xxiv.

In the Counsaill chaumbre within the Yeldhall. William Shirburn, oon of the seirchours of the craft of bowers, shewid that John Picher, cordwener, was with hym saing as he was enfourmyd the seirchours ben warnyd to appere before the Maiour, Aldermen and Common Counsaill thiez day for materes consernyng in the Common Hall, the saing (*sic*) John Picher willing and praying hym to make his craft to be not ayanest thame.

Item Thomas Lewlyn, tanner, and oon of the Brigmaisters of Fossebrig shewid to the said Maiour and all othre above namyd that oon Symondson of Northallerton shold have iij dacre¹ ledder housed in Boutham at the White Horse, which ledder apou Thuresday last was seirched by the seirchours of the cordweners they havng no power.

(fo. 11) Sir John Scausby, prest, hath shewid and confessid that he herd Sir Thomas Gribthorp, prest, say in the house of Thomas Hauselyn that ther sholdbe ijc men that was no shomakers to tak the part of shomakers, and thai myght gett a furiose man to set thame apone wark, and that the said shomakers wold spend large money or the Maiour and his brethren shold opteign ayanest thame.

Item, Alex. Dawtre, gentilman, examyned of the saing of the said Sir Thos. Gribthorp, prest, said and confessid that he herd the same Sir Thomas say, in the said house of Thos Hauslyn that ther woldbe iijc or iiijc men not being sowters² that wold name thame selfs sowters and tak the part with the sowters, if thai might get a capitan to set thame apou werk they shold strike ther adversaries down.

Item John Wod, escryver, in like case examyned apou the saing of Sir Thomas Gribthorp said he herd the said Sir Thos say that ther woldbe a greit nombre that was no sowters wold tak the sowters part.

William Cooke, taillour, oon of the seirchours of the taillours shewid how that John Smyth, cordwener, was at hym shewing that where the Maiour, Aldermen and Common Counsaill hath determyned apou his craft they to pay x^{li} for noun bering of ther torches, saing that if the Maiour, Aldermen and the Common Counsaill opteign ayanest thame in that than his craft to be werre

¹ Dacre ; obsolete form of dicker ; a bundle of ten skins.

² Sowters ; shoemakers and cobblers.

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for thai shold be the next craft that sholdbe in like troble, desiring therfore ye to do for us as ye wold we shold do for you, for and we wold apaid and laid down yisternyght x^{li} to Maister Tunstall we myght have had it agayn and we wold not for luf and cause of othre crafts in like case, and the said William answered and said—I trust ye shall have never bettere end.

fo. 11b.

Submission of the Cordwainers.

19 July (1490). *Present*—John Gilliot, Mayor, Sir Richard Tunstall, Mr Treasurer of St. Peters Church, 10 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 14 of the xxiv.

In the Counsaill Chaumbre within the Yeldhall. Diverse cordweners to the nombre xxxix presence and in the name of all othre within this Cite and suburbs of the same of ther craft, humblie appering and beseching you sirs, my lord Maiour, Aldermen and othre of the Common Counsaill to be our gude lords and maisters, and in eny matter that we have doon to your displeser or disobeid you otherwise than we aght to do we be sory and humblie submit us to you, and promit and oblishe us laulie to obey and tak such other order and direcon in all things concernyng our dewtie that ye woll adjuge us alsfer as right woll and the lawez of this Cite; and we all pray you, Maister Tunstall, to lay down for us the x^{li} laid apon us, under protestacion that it be no precident to bynd us now ne hereafter in eny like case, to it be adjudged by lernyd men to be taken of the Jugs of Assise or such othre indiferent men that can and will juge and discusse this matter indiferentlie. And incontinent the said Counsaill determyned, remembring their submission, to tak of the said x^{li} so laid down bot xl^s at the special request of Sir Richerd Tunstall and of the Tresorer of the Cathedrall Church of York; and over that remembring ther said submission and the said special request to be restorid to ther fraunchesis ayane whertofores thai and every of thame werre discharged for ther obstinacy and disobesance by thame (fo. 12) maid to the Maiour, Aldermen and the Common Counsaill withoute eny redemption except newe to be sworne.

fo. 12b.

Tanned Leather. Corpus Christi Procession.

29 July (1490). *Present*—John Gilliot, Mayor, 18 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

In the Counsaill Chaumbre of Ousebrig. For the common profett of the Kings people it is fully determynd and enact fermelie hereafter to be observed and kept, that all tanned ledder as well that hereafter shal com to this Cite by foren as other tanned by fraunchest men, tannerez of this said Cite and suburbs of the same, or it be putt to saill shalbe had to the Common Hall of this wirshupful Cite ther to be seirched for the profett of the Kings people

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as it hath ben of auncient tyme, that is to say, to be seirched by the seirchours of the tannerez, the seirchours of the gyrdelers, the seirchours of the coverez, and two able men of the cordweners, to thentent that all such defaults that is found by the said seirchours to be presentid from tyme to tyme to the Maiour and Chamberleyns for tyme being; and that every dacre ledder so seirched broght by a forent to pay id and in like case every dacre so serchied of a cocitesyn to pay ob.

The Maiour, Aldermen and the xxiiij of the Counsaill that iez or for tyme shalbe, evey yere apou the morowe next efter the Fest of Corpus Christi shal have every of thame a torche born before the blessed Sacrament in the procession, and he that defaults to forfet and pay withoute pardon to the behafe of the Commonaltie xl^s according to diverse acts therapon maid.

fo. 13.

Affray at the Minster Gates.

16 August (1490). *Present*—John Gilliot, Mayor, 10 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 7 of the xxiv.

For a variaunce maid betwix twane of the Shireffs officers of the Cite of York and a gentilman called Thomas de la Ryver, belonging to Maister Hert of the Cathedrall Church of York at the yate of the same, for a probacion of the same debate and variaunce Miles Harom was sent fore by the said Maiour and all othre above writen, and the said Maiour tofore the said presence examyned the said Miles of the said variaunce; he ther and then shewid and said that he sawe John Selowe and William Porte, serjants to the said Shireffs, and the said Thomas de la Ryver com all thre to gydder within the Mynster garth, the said Thomas betwix thame, and no words betwix thame to thai cam unto the mynster gate, and ther and then the said John and William, officers, being of the Cite ground withoute the said gate and the said Thomas within the same gate, the said officers and the same Thomas sodanlie stroke togydder into so much the oon of the officers stroke the knyffe of the same Thomas oute of his hand; the said Miles seing that and ran to the said John Selowe, serjant, and held hym, than William Port behynd the said Miles and the said Thomas stroke to gydder and the same William with a fone of his ax hurt the said Thomas; he so hurt cryed for a prest. Item, Sir William Adamson, prest, sent fore and examyned of the said variaunce said that he sawe the said officerez and Thomas com togydder anenst Mires dore, in his mynd in lovyng wise, and as thai cam togydder to the gate he herd a stroke and turned hym sodanlie aboute and sawe the said Thomas lenyng to the yate and said he was killed and he stirt unto hym and laid his hand apou the hurt and comfort hym. Item, Robert de la Ryveres (fo. 13b) sent fore and examined of the said variaunce said and confessed that he sawe John Selo and William Porte com furth at the

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Mynster gate togydder and when thai werre without apon the Cite ground they turnyd ayane to the Mynster warde and fonyd¹ inward with the poynts of ther axes into the said Mynster gate.

Item efterwerd the said John Selo and William Porte and ether of thame by ther othez examyned of the said variaunce, thai and ether of thame examyned said that thai being in Gods peax and the Kings intending no evill to eny person, the said Thomas de la Ryver questioned thame as thai wer going within the Mynster yerd whether thai was bound, and thai answerd curtaslie saing ther maister erand, and he answerd and said it was for hym, and so ther they willyng to departe withoute more saings he folowed thame from Maister Tresorer place unto the Mynster yate and ther multiplied so in words ayaneste the wirshup of ther maisterez and the Cite caused and moved thame more hetefull ayainst hym, which was cause of the variaunce, and in ther defence his hurt; apon the which in the opyn Counsaill the said Shireffs bycomplege and suretie to enlawe the said John and William for to answer at all tyme what can be laid ayanest thame, or ether of thame, consernyng the premisseyz in everything; and so thai and ether of thame werre comited to the warde and kepyng of the said Shireffs.

fo. 14.

Misconduct of the Masons.

31 August, 1490. *Present*—John Gilliot, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 12 of the xxiv.

Determynd and fully concludet that where certan tylers wirking by the Maires commaundment apon the Kyngs werk apon Settirday at nyght last, diverse childer of wekidnesse maliciouslie brak and withdrewe certan toles of thares which dede was thoght to be doon by the masons for dispute, and for that and for the conservacion of the Kings peax the maister mason and diverse othre masons were sent fore and examyned and for the unsitting language by hym upon his examinacion unto ye Maiour had, he and othre masons werr committ to prison ther to abide unto the tyme the matter was more ripelie known and understond; and also thai to fynd sufficient suretie in keping of the Kings peace; and also it is determynd that two lettres to be maid, on to the Erle of Surre,² and the tothre to Maister Tunstall, shewing in the same the premisseyz and to thentent to have ther mynds and counsaill how thai shall forthre in the same determyn. And also where the said maister mason presumptuoselie hired the belman to go thurgh the Cite with the bell shewing if eny man wold have oght for to do with maister mason and his feliship masons com unto the Kidcote and ther they shall fynd thame in despite of all his enemyes for the which the said belman oversight in that he was committ to prison.

¹ Fonyd ; thrust.² "Derby" crossed out.

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fo. 14b.

—¹ day of September (1490). *Present*—John Gilliot, Mayor, 6 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 9 of the xxiv.

Henry Wodd, mason, commit to prison for breking of the tolez belonging to the tilers wirking at the newe Towre was eft-sonez sent fore and examyned of his demeanaunce and dealing in breking of the said tolez and if eny man in his craft excited or moved hym to the said dede, the said Henry so examyned said that he was not moved ne stirrid to the said dede bot of his own mynde, and forther he confessid the dede doon by hym and his felowe being with hym in prison as he had tofore the Maiour the x day of Septembre shewid. Item Henry Otley, mason, being in prison for the said breking of tolez shewid in like maner and fourme as he did the said x day of Septembre, and forthre that he was not moved ne stirrid unto the same dede bot of his own mynde and also that John Kirke, mason, was the first man that they shewid the litell moile² that thy toke from the said Toure.

*fo. 16.***City Officials not to do penance.****Opening of the common lands.**

25 September (1490). *Present*—John Gilliot, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 1 Sheriff, 6 of the xxiv.

Whereas it is shewid that Maister Tresorer and othre of the Cathidrall Church of Yorke was determyned that John Selowe and William Port, serjants to the Shireffs, ben juged to go opyn penance tofore the procession apou Sonday next for that at in ther defence being apou the Cite grond at the Mynster gate fortuned in executing ther office for the King to strike a gentilman belonging to Maister John Hert, oon of the recidenciours of the said Cath. Church, and of hym drugh blode, that eftsonez a gentilman to go to the said Maister Tresorer and to prolong the premissez unto a certan day that the vera treuth in the same may be understandet and knawn, and he refusing that to shew hym preciselie the said serjants shal not enter thame selfs unto the said pennaunce bot to abide and stand therin as the lawe will.

(*fo. 16b*) Item the same day it is determyned that diverse serjants shal go to all the fermours of closours about this Cite and within the fraunches of the same, the which of tyme past hath ben accustomyd the cocitesyns hath had ther common in from the fest of Michaelmesse unto the Pureficacon of Our Lady yerelie, willing thame in peseable wise and for salvacon of ther whikwod³ to cast opou ther gatez of the said closours and to mak othre entries for cattell entering, thaí that refusing, to shew thame

¹ Blank.² Moile; a wedge.³ Whikwod; a Yorkshire word meaning thorns. Halliwell, *Dictionary of Archaic and Provincial Words*.

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that the Commones woll have ther entries as they have had in tymes past, havynge comaundment to mak noon extrucon¹ in whikfall ne othre things in hurting of the lords ne fermours.

fo. 17.

The Dyers and Tapiters.

27 September, 1490. *Present*—John Gilliot, Mayor, 10 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 10 of the xxiv.

It is agreid that where in old tyme tofore past the dyers of this wirshupful Cite hath had of the tapitours of the same x^d of every of thame dying eny garnez by yere, and so yerelie pesable thai had and resavyd withoute interupcon unto the tyme of the right wirshupful Thomas Wrangwish, late Maier, in whose dais the said pencion of x^d was from the dyers withdrawen and takyn, the said prescence for certai consideracons (fo. 17b) and for that at is shewid unto thame howe the dyers at all tymes tofore the dais of the said Thomas Wrangwish had pesable of eny tapitour dying eny maner yarnes x^d by yere of ther own agrement, and moreover they have fully concludet and determynd the said dyers yerelie to have and persave of every tapitour dying eny maner of yarnes as reid, dorrey,² yalowe or othre colour to be yerelie contributory to the said dyers in paying of x^d, eny ordynaunce tofore maid to the contrarie notwithstanding.

fo. 19.

The quarrel with the Minster to be settled.

17 November (1490). *Present*—John Gilliot, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 10 of the xxiv.

Apon a groge and variaunce dependaunt betwix the Cite and the Cath. Church of Saynt Petir for a frey maid at the Mynster gate by the Shireffs serjants and a gentilman belonging to Maister John Hert for the pacifying and a end to be had in the same, for the Cite is namyd by the said presence Sir Richerd York, knyght, and William Farefax, Recorder, and ferther the Church to name for thame twain wirshupful men to thentent a end to be had in the said groge and variaunce (fo. 19b) Item, it is graunted unto the two gentilmen and sex officers to the maise that they and every of thame shal have and persave ther old feis of aunchiaunt tyme used within this Cite.

fo. 24.

Inventory of goods and ornaments belonging to the Chantry of the B.V.M. in St. William's Chapel.

In primis a mese boke, a gret cowcher and a graile notid. Item a chalex with a pateyn of silver and over gilt weyng xij unc. Item ij crewetts of powder. Item a thrawen boxe of tre for syngyng bred. Item the composistion of ye same chanterie in boxe of tre.

¹ Extrucon ; expulsion.

² Dorrey ; golden, bright yellow.

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Item a vestymēt of cloith of gold of bawdkyne ye ground reid and grene with lions of gold with a corporax for the same. Item a vestiment of tawny damaske with a corporax for the same. Item a vestiment of rede baudkyn with white florez and blak offrey with steres of gold and a blake corporax for the same. Item a vestiment of blake wersted. Item a vestiment of blake seye. Item a nold vestiment of tawne bawdkyn with blak offrey. Item a vestiment of reid burdalexandre with a grene offrey and a grene corporax for the same. Item a stole of sylke of nedell warke. Item a frontell of bawdkyn with blew florez and rede and birds of gold.

fo. 25. **The proceedings on St. Blaise' day.**

Present—John Ferriby, Mayor, 11 Aldermen, The Recorder, 2 Sheriffs, 14 of the xxiv.

Assembled in the Common Hall in fest of Saynt Blase the Mayr, his brether Aldermen, Shireffs and other Common Counsellours then and ther being present, the hole Commonaltie after the auncient custome used in this said Cite—the Aldermen and Counseillours aforsaid were called by order as above wrytten, and then the serchours of every crafft also called, ther beyng present Robert Plompton, Comon Clerk of this said Cite; and after that, the Maïr Aldermen and Comon Counseillours and the Clerk aforeseid toke ther othez accustomed and theropon Humfrey Maners, squire at (*fo. 25b*) the mase, John Serston, squier for the bering of the swerd, and (the six) sergiants at the mase were sworne in forme and maner acostumed.

fo. 26. **Letter from the King.**

5 February (1490-1). *Present*—John Ferriby, Mayor, 9 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

To our trusty and welbeloved the Maire and Aldermen of our Cite of Yorke and to all the Commonaltie of the same.

By the Kyng.

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you wele and have understand to our singuler pleaser as wele by the writtyng of our ful trusty counseillour and knyght for our body, Sir Richerd Tunstall, as also by the relacon of our trusty squier, Richard Chomeley, oon of the huissers¹ of our chambre, that ye as our loving and obeisant subgiетts wele, advisely and peasbly behaved you in thelection and chosing of the Mair of that our Citie for the yere next to come; for the which your good acquital we tender you our hertly thanks, not doubtyng but that we shalbe unto yowe for the same and other your true deserts more tendre soverain lord in eny your reasonable causes hereafter, wherunto ye may suerly trust.

¹ Huisser ; usher.

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Yeven under our signet in our castell of Windesore the xxix day of January.

And it was agried by the presence abovesaid that the same lettre suld be opynly redd upone monday next ensuyng, opynly in the Common Hall afore all the Commons and cociticyns of this Citie.

fo. 31. **The King orders an enquiry into an alleged non-payment of customs.**

15 March, 6 Hen. VII (1490-1).

Trusty and welbelouffed we grete you well; lattyng you wite that it was late shewed unto us and the lords of our Counsaill by Edmund Bryngley and other, how that divers marchaunts of our citie of York had before that shipped in the schyppes called the Trenite of Copyndale, ye Mary Busshell, Jesus of Barone, and in the shippe of Henry Berebrewer, certan goods and marchaundises, of the whiche goods and marchaundises oure customes, subsidies and duties were not duely paied as appertigned; wherfor we send unto you at this time oure trusty and welbelouffed servaunt, John Bampton, for this cause, whiche shall shewe unto you the names of the said marchautes, desiring therfore and (*fo. 31b*) nathelisse willyng and charging you that calling the said marchaunts before you, ye havynge with you the said John Bampton, wisely and secretly examyn theym severally apon the ladyng of the said marchaundises and what quantite of eny specie and sorte of the same marchaundises every of theym did to be laden in every of the said shippes, and as ye shall fynd to send unto us the certeyntie by wryttyng by the said John Bampton, to thentent that we may clerly understande whether the defaulte and concelement of the withdrawyng of oure right therfore shalbe founde in the said marchaunts, or ells in the collectours of our customes, to thentent that we provide for punisshment accordyng; and over this where as the said John Bampton hath doon to be shewed unto us that it hath ben of olde tyme used and accustumed at our port of Kyngston upon Hull for divers consideraccons to abate unto the marchaunts in the custome house ther every iiijth cloth of suche as bee laden there and caried from thens wherunto we be confourmable for theis releise and conforth, we desire and eftsones wol that ye shewe this our mynd therin unto the marchaunts as ye thynke it to be necessary and requisite, and to endeavor in thaccomplisshing of al the premisses as our special trust is in you. Yeven under our signet at our palace of Westminster, the first day of March.

To our trusty and right welbeloved Counseillour and knyght for our body Sir Richard Tunstall, and to our trusty and welbeloved the Maire of oure Citie of York, Sir Richard York and Sir William Todde knyghts, and to every of theym.

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Mem. that the Wednesday ye xxij day of Marche, the sext yere of our sovereigne lord kyng Henry vii, William Spacy, yoman, come unto the Counsaill Chambre on Ousebrige and ther delivered ye Kyngs lettre to William Todde, Knyght, then lieutenaunt, my lord the Maire then being sore seke, the which lettre was direct only to the Maire, apon whiche delivere the said lieutenaunt brake it afore the Maire and on the morow after it was shewed and redd to diverse of the Comon Counsaill, that is to say, to W^m Chymney, Joh. Harper (and others) after redyng wherof it was thoght and agreed by (*fo. 32*) the prescence aforesaid that on monday next ensuyng al the hole Counsaill to be warned, and the Recorder then to be ther to mete at the Guildhall and then to take suche direcon accordyng after the contents of the same lettre as may best be thought for the Kyngs pleaser in the same.

*fo. 32.***Death and burial of the Mayor.¹****A new Mayor chosen.**

Be it remembered that on the Feast of the Annunciation of our Lady St. Mary Virgin the year aforesaid the most honourable John Ferriby merchant and mayor of the City of York died about the seventh hour in the afternoon. And on the morrow following, 26 March, his body by 6 Aldermen of the City—the sword & Mace before it, was borne to the church of All Saints on Pavement & there was most honourably enterred and each Alderman who was present at his burial received a legacy of 40^d by the hands of his executors. And on the second day next after following the most honourable William White, dyer, was chosen to be Mayor of the City for the residue of the said year & the wand of honour tipped with silver was borne before him to his house.

*fo. 32.***Letter from the King about crime and disorder in York.**

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you well, and whereas we be credibly enfourmed that diverse and many haynous murdres, felonyes, riots and other grevous offensis herebefore been committed and doon within the fraunchises of our Cite of York, where ye be our lieutenant, to the grete blemysshyng of our lawes and inquietacon of our leege people ther abouts, and but letill or no corecon doon therin, wherby the persons thus offendyng be embolded to remayne and contynue in the same there wilfull demenours to our rightyuly displeaser; we fully entendyng the reformation of thies enormitees and mysbehavings in eshuyng of further inconveniences, wool and straitely charge you to see that such men as have or shalbe founden culpable in the premysse within the precinct of the said franchise may now and from

¹ The original of this entry is in French.

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hensfford be duely punisshed accordyng to oure lawes and their demerits in this behalve, soo that othre our subgiетts therby take example and fere to attempt like things hereafter, not failling herof as ye wol answee therein at your perill, latting you witt that we have writen to our entierly belove cosin Therle of Surre, our lieutenaunt and chieff officer in the contrey ther, to call you afor hym if in any wise ye be founden remisse or negligent in reformyng this matier, and he therupon to yeve you dieu injunction in oure name to see the said mysdedes duely correctid, and if ye fail, then he to certifie us of the same in all goodily hast to thentent that we may provide some othre wayse and menes for the refourmacion and punisshent of the said matier.

Yeven undre our signet at our palais of Westminster the vij day of marche.

fo. 32b. **The King orders the arrest of three persons.**

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you wele, latyng you wite that it is shewed unto us for certan that diverse persones, that is to say, Hugh Buntynge of our Citie ther, flecher, John Man of the same, taillour, and Thomas Barray of the same, wever, with othre attainted and outlawed of high treson ayenst us go vowably¹ abroed in our said Citie and nothyng doon unto theym, wherof we mervaille greatly; wherfor we woll and straitly comaund yowe that incontintly apon ye resceipt of thes oure lettrez ye do attach the said thre persones and comyt theyme unto sure and sauf ward, soo to remayne without baille or maynprise unto the tyme ye have certified us therof, and that ye shall knawe and understand our pleaser ayen in that behalf, and in like wise we wol that ye demeane you unto al other repairing thidder standyng in like condiccon, and that ye faile not thus to do in any wise as ye wol answer therfor unto us at your perell. Yeven under our signet at our paleis of Westminster the first day of Marche.

To oure trusty and welbeloved the Maire and Aldermen of our Citie of York.

The King orders that the City be armed for defence.

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you wele, and for as moche as we calle to our remembraunce that our Citie ther for lake of sufficient ordenauncs and habilyments of werre, fortifyng and reparing of your walles, and clensyng of youre dikes, was late lightly invaded to the great damigiez therof and of our true subgiets, and inhabitants within the same, we fully entendyng our said Citie to be kept and presarved from all suche perills hereafter (*fo. 32*) woll and comaunde you to see in all goodly and convenient

¹ Vowably ; a form of avowedly ; openly.

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hast your walles to be sufficiently emended, youre dikes caste¹ and clensed, and suche competent habiliments of werre, harneis, gones and gonpoudre as shalbe thought metely and convenient for the suerte and defens of oure said Citie, and that this be don with al celeritee and diligence as ye entende to please us and as noo default be arrected² unto you if any inconvenients happen hereafter Yeven under our Signet at our paleis of Westminstre the iiij day of Marche.

fo. 33.

Ferriby's death. Election of a new Mayor.

26 March 6 Hen. VII (1491). *Present*—10 of the xii, 2 Sheriffs, 4 of the xxiv.

Assembled in the Counsaill Chambre upon Ousebrige at iiij of the klok at afternone of the same day where it was shewed by the Recorder that insomyche as God of his habundaunt grace has called unto his mercy the right wurshipfull, Sir John Fereby, late Mayre of this Citie, on whose soule God have mercy, whos body this daye was nobly enterred at ye paryche Kirk of All Halowez on the Pavymment with the swerd and mayce born by the esquyers afore ye body and corse, and vj Aldermen bering the said corse to the said Kirk receyved of his executours by reason of byquest of ye said John Fereby for theyr labour in the bering of his corse to be enterred as is above said, that is to say, ilke on of the said Aldermen iij^s iiij^d wherapon it was determyned that the said presence, accordyng to the charter of late graunted by the good grace of oure soveragne lord the Kyng, upon ellecon of the Mayre to be had at Seynt Maury day and also after the deth of eny Maire desessyng within the tyme of his mairaltie, immediately after the decesse of the said Mayre to procede to elleccion of a newe, accordyng to the said charter, to occupie the office of Mayraltie unto the fest of Seynt Blase next ensuyng; bot for somyche as William Todd, Knyght, late lieutenaunt to the Mayre nowe discessed had sent to Sir Richard Tunstall, knyght, and to Sir Richard York, knyght, shewing thame the dethe of the said Mayre, desiring theym to come to an ellecon of an other Maire and non answer is yet come from ather of theym, it was thoght the said ellecon suld be putt in respecct unto the morowe next ensuyng, which day was Palme Sondag, and then eny of the Common Counsaill to be at the Yeldhall by vj of the klok aforenone, and there it sullbe shewed and understand what answer come fro the said Sir Richard Tunstall and Sir Richard York, and therupon by godlly deliberacon and avyce of the said Counsaill to procede to the ellecon as is above-said.

¹ Caste ; chastened, purified, cleaned.

² Arrected ; directed.

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fo. 33b. **Letter to Sir Richard Tunstall about the election
of the Mayor.**

27 March, 1491. *Present*—10 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 11 of the xxiv.

To our right honourable and tender Maister Sir Richard Tunstall, Knyght.

Ryght honourable, oure worshipfull and tendre maister, we in the most herteley wise recomend us unto your maistership; and wheras God of his gret grace of late hathe called unto his mercy our right wurshipfull maister and mare, John Fereby, on whose saule God have mercy, and so as yete we and this the Kyngs Citie standeth destituet of a Maire and Governour to our gret discomforth and joupertie of the same, wherfor we this day, assembled in the Counsaill Chambre at the Common Hall, with all our hole herts and mynds beseches your Maistership to do so myche at oure pourerequest and prayer to be here tomorowe by ix of the cloke; and, sir, by the word of our charter wee are in doute to prolong and difere thellecon any longer for whiche cause with othre divers as we shall shewe you at your comyng, we beseche you to take no displeasour to us, in that we take apon us to send so hasteley for your Maistership, to thentent that the said ellecon by your good avice and supportacon of your maistership may be don and had in suche maner and forme as be most to the Kyngs pleasour, and with the words of our said charter, as God knaweth who ever preserve you in prosperite and good fortune. From York on Palme Sondag.

Yours at our power, the Common Counsaill of the Citie of York.¹

fo. 35b. **Letter to the King about alleged lawlessness
in York.**

5 April (1491). *Present*—William White, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 10 of the xxiv.

To the most highe and myghty Chresten Prince and my most drade lord the King.

Most hygh and myghty Cristen prince and my most redouted liege lord I, in the most humble wyse recomend me unto your grace and highness with al submiscon due unto your roiall majestie; please it the same to have enknawlege that the xxij day of the moneth of Marce last past I resceyved your lettrez mysive to me direct, wherin it hath pleased your highnes to shewe me howe that it was enformed your good grace that diverse and many haynous murdres, felonyes and riotts, and other grevous offenses here before of late hath ben comytted and don within (*fo.* 36) this your Citie and fraunchiez of the same, and litell or no correcon

¹ William White was chosen to be Mayor on 29th March.

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accordyng to your lawez don to eny suche persones as hath comyttyd and doon the said offenses to your gret and high displessour. My most drad Sovereigne lord, please it your highnes that accordyng to our lettrez of comyscons of peace herebefore by your noble progenitours and by you confirmed to your citicins, Mayre and Aldermen of your Citie of York as justicez of peace within the same Counte yerly at foure tymes in the yere by vertue of the same hath setten and kept sessions and with al diligence accordyng to your lawez kepeth, sitteth and enquereth of all suche murdres, felonyes, riotts and other offenses, if any of the same at any tyme be founden and presented after the due course and proces of your said lawez by due examinacon hath been punysched and coreted like as other justicez of your peace within any other of your Shyres useth, bereth and determineth wherin the right wirshipfull Sir Ric. Tunstall, knyght for your most noble body, if any of my predecessors or I hath been at any tyme heretofore remyse or necligent, wald have shewed and acerteined your highnes of the same our mysbyhavyng, and as within the space of thirteen yeres last past was ther nather murther, ne riott comytyd ne don within this your Citie ne precynct and libertie of the same. Please it also your most noble highnes that the xxix day of the same moneth of Marche I resceyved your most noble lettrez mysyve wherby ye gaff me in commandement tacche the bodies of Hugh Buntynge, John Man, and Thos Barry, and theym comytt to savegard, ther to remayne without baille or maynprise unto the tyme I hade otherwyse in comandement from your highnes; Sovereigne lord, incontinent after the resceyt of your said graciouse letters to me direct, I with assistance of my Brether and Common Counsaill of this your Citie have endeavored me to the uttermost of my power to execute your said commandement and hath attached oon Th. Barrey, wever, which remayneth in the gaole of this your Citie unto the tyme I have otherwyse in commandement from your good grace, and also endeavored us to have attached the other two whyche tofore the resceyt of your said graciouse lettrez wer fled and departed from this your Citie, and unknowen to us wher they be, and so as yete I can not attayne theyme and ather of theyme, bot if ather of theyme or any other of like condicon hereafter resort unto this your Citie or franchiez of the same I sall endeavour me to perform your high commandement in every behalve as according to my duetie and alegeaunce. And where it plesead your Grace to direct your graciouse lettrez myssive, commanding us to repaire the walles and clense the dykes of this your said Citie, and to prepare gonnes, gonne poudre and other abilementez of werre for the savegard and (*fo. 35b*) fortifyeng of the same your Citie, soverayn Lord, accordyng to your seid comandement we have provided and boght divers gonnes and other abilementez of werre and more shall, and to repaire the

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walles and clense the dykes of your seid Citie we shall endeavour us to the uttermost of our power, albeit, souveraine Lord, as it is evydently and opynly knawen that this your seid Citie is in gret decaye, ruyne and povertie, as knaweth the blessed Trenite, whom I beseche evermore to preserve your most noble and good Grace with prosperus liff and graciouse fortunes long to endure; from Yorke the xiiijth day of Aprill.

Your most humble subgiet, William Whyte, Mayre of your Citie of York.

fo. 35b.

Letter to Sir Richard Tunstall.

10 April (1491). *Present*—William Whyte, Mayor, 10 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 6 of the xxiv.

Agreed that a letter be sent to Sir Ric. Tunstall asking him to come to York to act in the matter of dispute between Sir James Danby & the Mayor & Commonalty of York.

fo. 37.

Petition to the King about Sir James Danby.

Undated. *Present*—William White, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

A bill of peticon unto the Kyngs good Grace for the mater of variaunce betwix this Citie and Sir James Danby, knyght, was shewed and opynly rede by John Shirwod, lerned in the temporall lawe, and theropon determyned that the said bill sul be sent to the Kyngs good Grace after that it be seen by the Recorder and suche other as salbe receyved by the said Recorder to be of counseill with this seid Citie; and that John Shyrwod suld have x^s in reward for his comyng hidder to giff his counseill in the said matier.

Also it was agreed that Maister Recorder suld reteyne to be of counseill in the seid matier with this Citie a serjant at the common lawe, Robert Constable and Robert Sheffeld, to giff theire counseill as may be most expediant; and if Robert Constable will not be of counseil with this Citie opynly, to move hym to giff his counseill in secret wise.

fo. 37b.

**Dispute between the Weavers and the Cordwalners;
letter from the King.**

26 April (1491). *Present*—William Whyte, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 10 of the xxiv.

Ther was rede the Kyngs lettres myssyve directed to Sir Ric. Tunstall and my lord Maier for reformation of the variaunces betwix the wevers and cordweners of the Citie for beryng of torchez on the morne after Corpus Christi day, the tenor of wiche ensuyth hereafter.

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(fo. 38).

By the Kyng.

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you wele, and for as moche as we bee enformed that grete divisions, discords and debats depend and of long tyme passed have been betwyx thartificers of wevers and cordweners, reseant and dwelling within our Citie ther, for their going with torches in procession, wherby often tymes things have been like to be attempted to the perversion and breche of our peas and inquietacon of our subgiets of oure seid Citie; we therfor entending good and peaseable rule to be observed and kept ther without any thing to be meoved to the contrarie, wool and desire you that calling before you thartificers of both craftez, ye will have this matier in good and deliberat examynacon, and therapon ordre and surely establisshe suche a direcon therein according to the olde usages acostomed ther as may be for the fynall appeasing of the said debats without any further trouble or a demaunde to be made in that behalf.

Westminster xix day of fevrier.

fo. 39. The Schoolmaster at St. Leonards Hospital and Richard III.

Saturday 14 May. *Present*—William White, Mayor, 7 Aldermen, 5 of the xxiv.

At whiche day assembled in the counsaill chambre apoun Ouse brygge, my lord Mayer shewed that it was enformed hym howe that John Paynter suld shewe and opynly say to Maister William Burton, Scolemaister¹ of Seynt Leonerds, in the house of William Plumer in Skeldergate, that the Erle of Northumbreland died a trator unto our soveraigne lord the Kyng. And after this shewyng, the seid Maister William Burton was sent for and come personally afore the seid presence, and opynly examyned of the premysez, shewed that he herd the said John Payntour say and utter in the presence of Christofer Wood, prior of Bolton in Craven, Sir Ric. Lister and Sir Ric. Flynt, chapleyns, within the house of the said William Plumer, about iiij dayes after Cristenmes, that Therle of Northumbreland was a traytour and bytrayed Kyng Richard, with myche other unsittyng langage consernyng the seid Erle, wherof the said Maier examyned hym what other langage it was, bot he shewed non. And then the said Maier commaunded the seid Maister Burton to stand apart in the chapell. After whyche examynacon John Payntour was furthwith sent for and come personally afore the said presence. And then Sir Richard Tunstall opynly afore al the seid presence shewed unto the said John all the sayngez and utteraunce above seid, and demaunded of hym what he said therto; and the said John Payntour, after licence asked of al the seid presence, answerd and said

¹ The Chancellor of York Minster claimed the right to license all Schools within a certain radius of York. For over 100 years St. Leonard's had kept a Grammar School in defiance of this claim.

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that he never said no suche words, ne non other that suld be in diswurshipyng of the said lord and erle; and over that he saith that he herd no word utterd at ye sayd tyme of the said erle; and theropon he reporteth hym to the said prior and prests; bot he says that he herd the said maister Burton saye that Kyng Richard was an ypocryte, a croche bake, and beried in a dike like a dogge; wherunto the said John Payntour answerd and said that he lied, for the Kyngs good grace hath beried hym like a noble gentilman (*fo.* 39b). Apon all whiche words and sayngs he reporteth hym to the said prior and prests, after which excusse and answer the said Maire comaunded the said John Payntour to stand by and not depart opon his perill, and in the Kyngs byhalve.

And when the said John was gon furth of the said chambre, it was determyned by the seid presence that the seid prests suld incontynent be sent for to thentent they may be examyned afore ather of the said parties speke or have any comunicaccon with theym. And so they come personaly afore the said presence. And first the said Sir Ric. Lister was singulery examyned what words he herd shewed and spokyn betwix the scolmaister of Seynt Leonerds and John Payntour in the house of William Plumer in Skeldergate, wherunto he answerd and said, that the seid scolemaister called and named Kyng Richard catyff, sayng he was beried like a dogge, after whiche callyng, John Payntour said he lied, and preferred to have stryken at hym with a litill rod whiche he had in his hand, bot the prior of Bolton letted hym, and put theym in sondre; and then the Maier asked hym what tyme it was, and if he herd any words that touched the Kyng or my lord of Northumbreland or any othre lords; and the seid Richard answerd and seid he was not perfittly remembred of the day, bot as fer as he hath in remembrece it was a litill after Cristenmes; and ferther he saith that he herd non other words nether that touched the Kyng, the Erle of Northumbreland, ne any other lords, as he wul depose by his presthode; wheropon he departed. And then Sir Ric. Flynt come personaly afore the said presence and singley examyned what words or langage he herd said and uttered in the said house betwix the scolemaister of Seynt Leonerds and John Payntour; wherunto he answerd and said that the scolemaister called Kyng Richard cattiff and gretly rebuke hym with myche unsittyng langage, bot other words herd he non, nether of the Kyng ne any other lords, and that he wul depose by his presthede, and theropon departed. After al whiche langage and examynaccons the said John Payntour and Mr John Burton was sent for and come afore the said presence and then the Maier on the Kyngs behalfe comaunded theym, and ather of theym, to kep the Kyngs peace agayn other, apon payn of forfeitour of c marks unto the Kyng, and also that they, and ather of theym, suld be redy at al tyme to come afore hym what tyme as he sent for theym, or ather of theym, apon the same payn.

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Copie of the Prior of Bolton's letter to the Maier.

After dew recommendacon, plese it your lordshipe that I am enfourmed that my hertely welbelovede William Plumer and John his brother, are detecte of treson for certan langage, the which thei shulde have saide unto the scole maister of Sant Leonards, when I shulde have ben present; mi lorde, and it plese your lordship, as for such langage as I harde was nether treson nor belongyng therunto, and that I will abide by, that it was the saide scoill maister com into William Plumer hous, wher thei and I was at our disporte, and when he was emonge us he was besy of langage, by the which we supposide he was distempide awther with aill or wyn, and was irke of his company, and desired John Payntour to avoide hym the hous. Bot for to say thei awther rebukide the birth of the Erle of Northumberlande, or his trewth anence Kyng Richarde, I will abide by ther was no such langage. And wher it is reportide thei shulde be besy with Kynge Richarde, thei war not, bot that the said scoill maister said, he luffede hym never and was beride in a dike. John Payntour saide hit maid litill mater nowther of his luff nor his . . . and as for his beriall, hit pleside the Kyngs grace to bery him in a worshipfull place. And as for any other langage I harde non, as I will abide by befor your lordship at any tym ye plese to call me. I besech you giffe credence to this brynger. And Almyghty God kepe yow. In hast at Rotherham, the xvjth day of May

Yours Christofer

Prior of Bolton.

To my reverende lorde my lorde Maire of York be this deliverede in hast.

fo. 40.

Item the same day the serssours of the cordweners come afore the seid presence, and dissired to have the ordinaunce of theyr crafft agayn delivered and to bere theyr torchez in theyr old rome and place the morne after Corpus Christi day and accordyng to the Kyngs lettrez, whiche was opynly rede afore the seid presence; wherunto the seid Meare and presence answerd and comaunded theym to bere theyr torchez ather by theymself on both sidez the strete afore the wevers, or elles to go on the lefft hand, the wevers on the right hand, or eles to make fyne with the chambre and be dysmysed of beryng any torches for this yere, and to giffe yerely herafre to the Chamberleyns for tyme beyng xiijs iiij^d for to have theyr ordinauncs agayne with serche of rede lether and blake. Heropon the seid serssers in the name of the hole of the crafft asked respyte of ther answer in that behalve to the next assemble of the said presence as after ensuyth.

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fo. 40b.

The affair of the Cordwainers settled.

31 May (1491). *Present*—William White, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 5 of the xxiv.

At which day the serssors of the cordweners gaf answer that theyr craft was agreed to pay and content yerly unto the Chamberleyns for tyme beyng xiijs^s iiij^d to have ther old ordynaunces agayn delivered with serche of blake and rede lether, and all other correcons and punyshments and forfeits longyng to the seid craft without interupcion of any other in a payre indentours under seale of office of mayraltie and the sersours of the same craft enterchaungeably, which was graunt theym by all the seid presence, and they to bere theyre torchez the morn after Corpus Christi day in oone of the two roomez afore reherced apou the penaltie afore this tyme therin ordained.

fo. 41.

Order to set free a prisoner.

To our trusty and welbeloved the Maire and Shireffs of our Citie of York.

By the King

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you wele, and for as moch as we bee enformed that oone, Thomas Barrey of our Citie ther, wever, is for our cause and matier and also by our comaundement ther in duresse of emprissonment, it is so that we have called to remembraunce that afore season in this cuntrey he came befor us humbly submyttyng hym and besechyng us of grace and pardone, whome we at that tyme upon his submysion toke to grace and frely pardoned hym of his offenses. Wherfor we wol and comaunde you that if ther bee no matier ayenst hym bot only our cause and comaundement that then ye do hyme incontiently upon the recept herof to be enlargised out of prisone and put at his fredome and libertie without any longer deteignyng of hym in the same, not failyng herof in any wise for thus we wol that it be don, and thies our lettres shalbe your sufficent warraunt and discharge at all tymes. Yeven under our signet at our manoure of Grenewich, the first day of Juyn.

fo. 44.

**Letter to Sir Richard Tunstall about
Sir James Danby.**

Right honorable my wurshipfull and singler good maister, I recommend me unto your maistershup, shewyng the same howe that ye Recorder and the Attorney for ye Citie haith sent me and my breder worde that Sir James Danby haith takyn furth a *nisi prius* to pase at ye next assise there ayane ye Mair and Commonaltie of ye said Citie, wherwith ye said Commonaltie and inhabitaunts of here er hugely stirred and greved so that my breder and I doubtez that inconvenients and breche of ye Kyngs peas is

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likly to fall without your gude counsell and advice in exchewing of the same. Also, Sir, her er iij assisez in iij of ye commons named comyn down ayanst ye said Sir James to passe in ye Yilde Hall at ye nex assise wherin we pray you of your counsell and advice wheder wec shall proceid in ye same or noo, and if your maister-shup think it be to doo to send Sir James word of all ye premisseyz and if ye so doo I pray your maistership to vouthsave to send me and my breder word what awnswer ye have from hyme; and also, Sir, I have takyn a sympill and pure person and commyt hym to prison the which went about here in your Citie, and shewid and utterd to diverse persons within ye same that he spak with ye lord Lovell and Sir Thomas Broghton in Scotland, howbeit afor me he denyeth that he never so said ne shewid, and what your maister-shup thinks I shuld doo forther herein, I pray you send me word with advice and counsell; and, Sir, I and my breder beseke you that ye will vouthsave to be here at ye assisis tyme that we may resort unto your maistership according to ye Kyngs commaundement and our deutie for your gude counceill and advice. From York ye xvj day of July. Yours at my power, William White, Mair of ye Citie of York.

fo. 44b.

Fishermen to be protected against pirates.

26 July 6 Hen. VII (1491). *Present*—W^m White, Mayor, 8 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 10 of the xxiv.

By the Kyng.

Trusty and welbiloved we grete you wele, and natwithstand-
ing that our grete armee remaigneth on the see for the better
defense of our subgietts haunting the same, yit by the meane of
frenshe pirats and thyeves lieng in awaite for there avauntagies
and prayes grete losse and damages myght happene to fysshermen,
our subgietts, wher our seid armee is ferr of from thaym; for
whiche cause our subgietts of Norfolk; Suffolk and other placez
of good pollicie for their owne wille finde at thare propre costs
barkez and other smalle vessaills to waughte and defende the said
fysshermen from the damagies of the said thieves and pirats;
wherfor we advertising you heroff, desire and pray you that ye
with your neighbours abouts you will provide semblably for the
waughtyng, soucour and suertie of our fisshermen in those parties.

Yeven under our signet at our manoure of Grenewich the
xiiijth day of July.

fo. 45b.

A mysterious coffer.

Mem. that the xxixth day of the moneth of July the vjth
yere of Kyng Henry vijth come personally afore the right wur-
shipfull Sir, William Whyte, Mair of the Citie of York, in the
Counseill chambre apon Ousebrig within the same Citie, oone

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Juliane Clerkson, syngle woman, sometyne servaunt with William Croft and Agnes his wiffe, late decessed, and by his othe maid upon the holy Evangelist confessed and unconstraint shewed that she for treuth knewe that Thomas Catour, marchaunt, offt and many tymes when he rode to London and other placis brought a couffer lokyd unto his said maister and maistres, and at divers tymes at his comyng home the said Julian by comaundement of his maister and maistres bare agayn the same coffer unto the said Th. Catour, and over that the same Julian seith that the said Th. Catour a litill afore the decese of the said Agnes at which tyme he rode to London brought and delivered unto the same Agnes the coffer above seyd save to be kept unto his comyng agayn, and after the said Th. Catour come home agayn and incontinently rode unto Scarburgh the said coffer remaynyn in the kepyng of the said Agnes, and afore the comyng home of the same Thos. Catour fro Scarbrough, the above seyd Agnes Croft decessed, and when the seyd Th. Catour come home and knewe she was decessed he went unto Th. Derby, merchaunt, and asked delivere of the same coffer, and the same Thos Derby upon the same request delivered unto hym the same coffer. Al whiche premysez to be good and trew the said Julian deposeth as is above seyd.

Item the same day and yere come personally afore the said Maire, freer Robert Quyxley, of the order of Carmelits within the said Citie, and by his othe maid upon his presthode shewed that the seyd Thos Catour at divers tymes when he rode from home brought and delivered unto the seyd freer Robert the above seyd coffer save to kep unto his comyng home agayn.

Freer Nicholas of seyd order by his presthode shewed that the forseid Thos. Catour, (*fo.* 46) at suche tymes as the Comons of late entred the Citie, brought and delivered unto the seyd freer Nicholas the said coffer save to kep unto the tyme he required hym for delivere therof.

John Robynson of the said Citie, boucher, shewed that the above seyd Thos Catour at diversez tymes when he rode from home brought and delivered unto the same John the seyd coffer save to be kept.

fo. 46b.

A green silk girdle for Corpus Christi Guild.

1 September 7 Hen. VII (1491). *Present*—W^m White, Mayor, 6 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 6 of the xxiv.

Sir Thomas Bridlyngton, vicar of Barton in Westmoreland, and canon of the convent of Warter, York Diocese, appeared personally before the Mayor, William White, in the Council Chamber on Ouse bridge, and before others, and shewed how that oone Sir Th. Roberts, prest, son and executor of the testament and last will of Margaret Roberts, late wiff to Peers Roberts, sometyne citieine and fyscher of this Citie, abowt vth yere last past to fore

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the present day, the veray day not perfutely remembred, at the same Citie delivered unto the said Sir Thos Brydlyngton a grene sylk girdell silver harnest (*fo.* 47); (the whiche girdell was ther shewed tofore my said lord Mayre and presence afore said) sayng unto the said Sir Thomas Brydlyngton that the above said Margaret Roberts by her wittword¹ and last will biquest and gaff unto the same Sir Thos Brydlyngton the said girdell to have, kep and occupie while his liff naturall endureth, and after his decesse the said girdell to be delivered unto the maister and kepers of Corpus Christi Gilde within the Citie of York for the tyme beyng to pray for the saulez of the said Piers and Margret. After whiche sayng the said Sir Thos. Brydlyngton to fore my said lord Mayre etc. delivered the said girdell unto Sir John Garnet, person of the parische Kyrk of oure lady seynt Mary virgyn in Castlegate and Maister of the said gyld.

fo. 48b. **Minster Masons charged with murder.**

20 Oct. (1490).

Agreed that William Hyndley² and Christopher Horner, masons, than being present in the Counceil Chambre shuld be committed to the Shirreffs Gaole thair to abyd to such tyme as dewe inquisicon myght be maid acording to the Kyngs lawes, if the said William and Christopher werre giltie of the dethe and murdring of John Partrik, late of York, tiler.

fo. 50b. **Assault with the prison Keys.**

19 December (1491).

It was shewed howe one Richard Davias, glover, and one of the sergiants under John Hoton, potter, nowe one of the Shireffs of the Cite, at suche tyme as my lord the Mayer sent John Nicolson, one of the comon serjiaunts unto the said Richard comaundyng to hym to bryng unto my said lord the Mayer one Robert Whithed, whiche the said Richard had arrested in a pleynt of dette, and the seid (*fo.* 51) Richard Davias disobeyng the said commaundement with the kayes of the Kydcote dore stroke the said John Nicolson and hurt hym apou the hede and wold nether bryng ne send the said prisoner; wherapon my lord Mayer hath comyt the said Richard to prison; after whiche shewyng it was determyned by the said presence that the said Richard for his disobesaunce and mysbyhavyng ayenst my said lord the Mayre to remayne and abyd in prison unto the comyng of the right wirshupfull Sir Ric. Tunstall Knyght.

¹ Wittword ; last will.

² A celebrated name. William Hindley was appointed Master Mason of York Minster in 1472 and between 1475 and 1505 constructed the organ screen. No further mention of this charge against Hindley appears in the House Books.

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fo. 51.

The Danby case.

27 Dec. (1491). *Present*—W^m White, Mayor, Sir Richard Tunstall, 6 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 7 of the xxiv.

Ther was opynly redde by the Recorder a copy of an action of trespass and escower sued and takyn by Christofer Danby, esquier, agayn divers cociticins and inhabitaunts of this Citie for dryvyng of their catell in the hye waye toward theyr common on Stokton more; after whiche bill and copy so rede and by the said presence perfitely considered and understood it was agreid that for so myche as the seid acon was persued agayn the seid cociticins and inhabitauntez for the right of all the Citie that it sold be answered unto by thavice of counsell lerned, at the comon coste and charge of the said Citie.

fo. 54b.

Ordinances of the texwriters.

18 January (1491-2).

Agreed that a bill of parchymment tofore the said presence opynly shewed comprehendyng certaine ordinaunces of the tixt-wrytters, lymers, noters and florishers within thes Citie, suburbs and fraunchisez of the same, for the comon well of thes Citie and the said occupaccons from this tyme furth to be affermed and estabillished as an act and ordinauncez firmly to be observed in every article comprised within the said, and emong other ordinauncez of this Citie to be registred, provided alway that notwithstanding the said ordinauncez or any articule of the same that it shalbe lefull unto Sir William Insklyff, prest, to fynysche and make up two books, that is to say a masse booke and a cowcher whiche he hath in wryttyng and makyng at this day before the fest of the nativitie of Seynt John Baptiste next ensuyng.

MS. B/Y.

fo. 166.

Ordinances of the Tixtwriters, Limners, Noters, Turners and Flourishers.

Furst it is ordaned—at the humble supplicacion of the company of the sciencez above written that frome hensforth yerely there shalbe elect emonges tham two sufficient and able men to be serchours in the same craftes for oon hole yere complete undre the payn of iijs iiij^d to be forfeit holy to the chamber by the said craft.

Also that noon of the said craft or science setup a shop to write, lume, note, turne or flurissch within the Citie, suburbs or fraunchesse of the same openly or cuvertly unto such tyme he be found able to exercise that occupacion by the serchourz forsaid undre the pein of xij^s iiij^d to be devided equally unto the use of the chambre and the said craft.

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(fo. 166b). Also that every apprentice which haith well and truelie served his yeres within this Citie shall pay at such tyme as he shall setup for hym selff in the same craft iij^s iiij^d, to be devyded as is to forsaied, and if their be ony such that have not bein apprentice within the said Citie in the forsaied craft that intendeth forto setup as a maister in the same shall pay for his upset xij^s iiij^d to be devyded as is toforsaied

Also that noone of the said craft take his apprentice for lesse termes then for vij yeres complete, and that his indentourz be shewed within thre weikes after his band unto the serchours of the same craft for the tyme being undre the payn of x^s; and that no man of the craft forsaied lerne no person of other craft any part theroff but onlie his apprentice undre the pein abovesaid to be devided as is abovesaid.

Also it is ordaned as fare as is in the said Maier his bredre Aldermen and other of the Commune Councill of the Citie of York that noo preste within this Citie, suburbs and fraunchesse of the same havynge a competent salary, that is say vij markes or above, exercise the craft of tixtwryters, lumers, noters, turnourz or florisshours within the same for his singuler prouffit and sucour, nor take noon apprentice, hierdman or other servant to his service nor make no barganes or covnauntez with ony person to that entent undre the pain of xl^s to be devyded as is to forsaied; provided alway that it shalbe lefull to any preste to write, lume, note, turn or floriss any maner bukes to his propre use or to distribute to any place in way of almuse, and that every preste not havynge a competent sallary within the said Citie, suburbs and fraunchiesse of the same shall exercise the craft of tixtwryting, lumyng, notyng, turnyng and florissing any bukes at his pleasour for his propre avail and prouffite with his awn handes not takyng apprentice or hierdman unto hyme in any wies undre the pein of xl^s to be paied as is toforesaid.

Also if any aliene would settup as a maisteir in the craft abovesaid after he be founden able by the seirchours of the same for the tyme being he shall pay for his upsett forsaied to the chambre and craft forsaied, equallye to be devided xl^s (fo. 167)

Also if there be any apprentice or hierdman in the said craft that withdrawith eny goodes to the valour of xij^d from his maister or any other persone he shall be warned to leif and if he eftsones doo as much he shall never occupy within the citie, suburbs and fraunchiesse of the same and whate maister of the same craft that takes hym to his service and settes hyme on wark within the citie etc. shall forfeit. to the use of the chambre and craft x^s.

Also that no master, apprentice nor hierdman of the said craft be rebell or otherwies mysbehave hym unto ther serechourz for the tym being hyme lawfully and curtasely serching in there

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occupacion uppon the payn of xij^d to be payd as is toforesaid.

Also that every forein using any parte of the same craft that cumyth into this Citie to sell any bukes or to take any warke to wurk shall pay to the upholding of their padgiant yerelie iiij^d

Also it is ordand that if any master of the said craft havynge apprentice discesse the which apprentice haith not served hole his yeres with his said master he shall continowe duryng his yeres with [the wife] of his said maister as long as shee kepith hir soole, except his said master pardone hym his yeres unserved which if he so be and founden able by the serchourz he shall pay for his upsett iij^s iiij^d—and if he be not able by the said serchourz upon the said pardone he shall [serve] furth his yeres with what master as hyme shall best seme undre the payn of x^s to be paid in maner and fourme abovesaid.

Also if any master of the said craft lawfully warned by his serchours of the same for the tyme being or ther depute to cume to any assemble at any place and houre appointed for the well of the said craft absent hymeselff willfully shall forfeit without pardone iiij^d as oftymes as he is warnyd, except he can shewe a resonable excuse in that behalve; and what soever he be that discovers the counceill at any such assembles if it can be proved upon hym by ony master of the same craft or any other person he shall forfeit as oft tyme as he soo doith xij^d to be devided as is afforesaid.¹

fo. 57.

Election of Mayor.

9 February 7 Hen. VII (1491-2).

Item the same day beyng present the Aldermen and other of the Comon Counseill tofore wryttyn and the Commonaltie after thauncient custome used in this Citie, the Aldermen and Counseillours aforeseid by order wer called as is tofore wrytten, and then the serssours of every craft and occupaccon also called, ther beyng present Robert Plompton, Comon Clerk of this Citie; and after that the right wirshipful Sir, Thomas Scotton, merchaunt, elect Mayre in the fest of Seynt Maury² last past, at whiche day of elecon he was at London as one of the knyghtez and cociticins for this Citie at the highe court of Parliament of our soveraigne lord the Kyng, and come to this Citie the nyght next tofore past maid his othe to the seid office of marialtie accustomed opynly in the Comon Hall, and then the Aldermen, Comon Counseillours and the clerke afore said toke ther othez accustomed; and ther upon Humfrey Maners, Squyer at the maice, John Seiston, Squyer

¹ In the preamble to these ordinances it is said that they had been enacted during the mayoralty of Sir William Todd (1487), but for certain considerations the entering of them on the Register of the City had been put off until 18 January (1490-1). The MS. B/Y is a miscellaneous volume containing charters and ordinances dating from the 14th to 16th century.

² 15 Jan., Feast of St. Maurus, abbot.

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for the beryng of the swerd, John Hardwyke (and five others) sergiaunts at the mayce to fore the Mayre were sworne in in forme of auncient tyme acustomed

fo. 57b.

The poverty of York and payment of taxes.

Order to be observed at election of Mayors.

13 February 7 Hen. VII (1491-2). *Present*—Thomas Scotton, Mayor, Sir Richard Tunstall, 7 Aldermen, 1 Sheriff, 8 of the xxiv.

To our trusty and well belovyd counseillour and knyght for our body, Sir Richard Tunstall, the Mayre of our Citie of York, and to the Aldermen and Common Counseillours of the same.

By the Kyng.

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you wele, and for asmyche as we be credibly informed that our Citie of York in divers placis and parisches theroff is fallen into suche extreme ruyne and decaye, as the inhabitaunts therof, fewe in nombre and of exile havour, be not of powre to be contributories and to bere suche chargez in thynges to be cessed for us generally in our said Citie as they have doon of tyme passed; wherfor we entending the good contentenance of our said Citie the universall wele theroff, wol and desire you to see and provide that such our dueties as must from tyme to tyme be had within the same to be (58) cessed and levied of thaym that after the discreccions and wisdomes be in powere and habilitie, and in noon other wise as reason is soo that the perell be not by occasion of eny such cessyng chargied over there powers and havours, and that ye take suche fordre ordre and direccion herin as no persone have cause reasonable to complayne unto us hereafter, nor that our dueties be in any wise abreggyd or lessed, and that ye woll see this be don as we truste you. Yeven under our signet at our palais of Westminster.

29 day of January.

To the same from the King.

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you wele, and wher in thauctorite of your charter by our noble progenitours to you graunted, and by us ratified and confermed, amongs other things it is conteyned that every yere on Saynt Mauryes day the hole bodie of our Citie ther shuld procede unto the liting and chesing of a newe Maire to have the principall rule and guiding of the same, in the whiche it hath be custumably used by vertue of the seid charter that the Comons of our said Citie shulde name the personnes of the moost sufficient and able reseant and incorporat within the same, and of theym soo named oon to be chosen unto the seid autoritie by the Mayre, Aldermen and common counseill therof; it is shewed unto us that the said Comons havying litill regarde

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unto the honour, wele and universall tranquillitie of our said Citie have late in the last eleccion ther made for the cause above said symply named insufficient personnes not of habilitie to occupie and excercise the said auctorite, of the whiche their unsittyng demeanyng we be not content nor pleased, wherefor we tendering the good ordering and guiding of our seid Citie wol and (*fo.* 58b) desire you to see all suche things concernyng the said elleccion to be inviolaby observed and put in execuccon, and if any persone or personnes wol of hedyness name any man to have the said auctorite, not mete nor condigne therunto, or wol not obey the Mayre there, for the tyme beyng, that then ye comitte hym or them unto sure and saufe warde soo to remayne unto the tyme ye have certified us therof, and that we have provided for his or theyre further punyshment in this partie, and that noo default or remisse dealing be founden in you herin, as ye wol answer therfor unto us hereafter.

Yeven under our signet at our palais of Westminster the xxix day of January

fo. 58b.

Charges at the common Staith.

19 February 7 Hen. VII (1491-2). *Present*—Thomas Scotton, Mayor, 6 Aldermen, 5 of the xxiv.

It was determyned, ordayned and enacted for an ordinaunce fermely hereafter to be observed, that every foreyn comyng and bryngyng to the comon stathe within the Citie any ship, botte, cogge or other maner of vesell that comyth by water and festyns at the said comon Stathe shall pay to the Chamberleyns for the tyme beyng for his festinyng, ryngagee and kayage of every vessell iiij^d, to be employed to themendyng of the said kaye or stathe. And also that ther suld be iiij buschells and two netts for see cole of the comon costs of this Citie of newe be maid after the Kyngs standerd within this Citie, by whiche mesures and by non other all maner cornez, graynez, colys and salt (*fo.* 59) comyng to this Citie by water and sold by rettell at the said Stathe or any other place apon the water sull be metten and mesured, paying for the same mesures at every score of corne, graynez or salt and every vth chaldere of see colys as well denycine as foreyne ij^d. and if any man, ether denysin or foreyn do the contrary of this ordinaunce aforseid grevously to be amerced and punysched at the discrecon of the Mayre.

Also it was enacted that every person that from nowe furthe shalbe enfraunchessed within this Citie and admyttet to the liberties of the same shal pay his fraunchesse monyes, that is to say, xx^s, within the space of iii or iiij yere next ensuyng the daye of his entre,

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fo. 61. **The Commons offer to bear the costs of the defence
against Sir James Danby.**

Present—Thomas Scotton, Mayor, 10 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 11 of the xxiv.

To there right honorable lord and their wirshipfull maisters the Mayre, Aldermen and Comon Counsell of the Citie of York.

Humbly sheweth to your lordshipp and maisterships the hole bodie of the Comons of the Citie of York besechyng the same to be to theyme good lord and maisters, and as ye have ben at al tymes to maynteyne in theyr right as they entend utterly to abid with you and to spend their bodies and their goods accordyng to theyr othes; and wher it is so that Sir James Danby hath aganst our said lord the Maier and us the Comons of this Citie in the Counte of York an *nisi prius*, concernyng the mater of variaunce betwix hym and us for our comon in the halfeld, we ar fully determyned, assent and consent, knawyng the chambre of this Citie gretely to be endetted, to bere (fo. 61b) and pay with your good help and socour of our perticler costs and charges, every man after his power, as well in defence of the said Sir James in the said *nisi prius* as al other accions by hym takyn or to be takyn ayanst any of the said Comons, or by the Maier and Commonaltie ayanst hym to be sewed, not chargyng the said Chambre with eny peny or some therof, and the same mony so gadered emongest us to remayn in the kepyng of thre of substantiall craffts of the said Citie, to thentent aforesaid, and at suche tyme as any suche expencs in this behalve shalbe maid, the Chamberleyns for tyme beyng to resceyve all suche mony of the said iij craffts, as shalbe spent in any behalve concernyng the premisez; also that it wold please your said lordship and maistershipps to ordeine and enact fermely here after to be kept that no cociticins ne inhabitaunt of this said Citie take to ferme frome hensfforth any closure or grese ground of the said Sir James or his eyres within the libertiez of the said Citie apon payn of forfeittour of x^{li} to the comon well of this Citie, and eny citicine and inhabitaunt within this Citie havyng any maner of fermhold of the said Sir James, that is to say, house or gardyn within the said Citie, afore the fest of Witsonday next comyng depart from his said fermehold apon payn of xl^s, and all suche tenaunts shall, if they please, have sufficient fermholds of the comon rent by resonable ferme, whiche knaweth Allmyghty God, whom we beseche ever more to preserve your lordship and maister-ships in honour and felicitie long to endure.

fo. 62. **Reduction of tax payments.**

23 March 7 Hen. VII (1491-2). *Present*—Thomas Scotton, Mayor, 10 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 6 of the xxiv.

Determyned that wher the Kyngs comysion of late is direct

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to John Shawe (and 3 others) to leve and gader the Kyngs tax within this Citie and libertiez of the same, that insomyche as diverse pariches within this Citie is in so grete ruyne and decaye that they may not pay ne bere the tax of auncient tyme accustomed to be leveed within the said pariches; wher for it is agreed that the Mair shall send to the Constables of every parysche to bryng in a bill what they paye to the Kyngs tax to be shewed to the Comon Counseill of this Citie at ther next assemble, that the same tax may be holy levied and gadered accordyng to the Kyngs comyssion.

fo. 62b.

Revision of Parish payments of tax.

30 March 7 Hen. VII (1492). *Present*—Thomas Scotton, Mayor, 12 Aldermen, The Recorder, 10 of the xxiv.

Ther was shewed divers bills recityng what every parysche within this Citie and suburbs of the same paieth to an hole tax; after whiche sheweng it was thought and fully determyned accordyng to the Kyngs commande as appereth the 13 Februaire, that certen parishes comprised within the said bill for divers consideracons from hensfurth suld bere and pay more to the Kyngs tax then they have paid late tofore, and other some of the said parischez which ar fallen in extreme ruyne and decay to be lestened and abregged; emong which it was thought that the parysche of Seynt Maurice without Monkbarre, whiche tofore paied bot xv^s suld from now furth pay unto the tyme other direcon wer taken, in the releve of other parischez xxviijs viij^d.; and that the parische of Seynt Margaret, Seynt Edward, Seynt Nicholas in Walmegate, Seynt George, Seynt Elene and Alhallowez in Fischergate, which altogeder to fore tyme paied lx^s for semable consideracons suld bere and pay iiij^l vjs viij^d. Item that the paryche of Seynt Nicholas (fo. 63) in Mekilgate, which to fore paied lxxjs iiij^d suld paie iiij^l viij^d. The parysche of Seynt Marie over Bischop Hill, whiche tofore paid xxv^s hensfurth to pay xxvjs viij^d; after whiche assesment and increse it was determyned that the parische of Saynt Savyour whiche tofore paid lxxvjs for diverse consideracons and gret and urgent causes from hensfurth suld be abregged, and pay bot xl^s; that the parysche of Seynt Marie thalder which tofore paid iiij^l suld be abregged and pay lxxvjs; that the parysche of Seynt Gregory, whiche to fore paied xlijs iiij^d suld pay xxxvjs xj^d. And all other parishes to paye theyre tax as afore this hath ben used and accustomed.¹

¹ Tax paid by the different Parishes this year. St. Mary Castlegate, 110s. St. Michael Spurriergate, 12£. All Saints Pavement 7£. St. Peter the Little 68s. 4d. St. Martin Coneystreet 6£ 18s. 8d. St. Helen in Stonegate 100s. St. Wilfrid 53s. 8d. St. Michael le Belfrey 9£ 18s. 8d. Holy Trinity Goodramgate 3£ 6s. St. John del Pyke 3£ 6s. St. Andrew 15s. St. Helen on the Walls 15s. St. John in Hungate 3s. 6d. St. Mary in Layerthorpe 4s. St. Cuthbert 4s. All Saints, Peaseholme 3s. 6d. St. Maurice 26s. 8d. St.

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fo. 64b. The City loses the grant of 100£ out of the Fee-farm.
Attempt to recover it.

16 April 7 Hen. VII (1492). *Present*—Thomas Scotton, Mayor, Sir Richard Tunstall, John Vavasour one of the Kings Judges, 7 Aldermen, The Recorder, 2 Sheriffs, 8 of the xxiv.

Determinyd that Sir Ric. York, Knyght, and Alderman of this Citie, William Fairffax, Recorder of the same and Thomas Jameson, oone of the Chamberleyns, with x horses, xij^d on the day, a man and a horse of the comons costs suld ride unto Kyngs Grace to sew and laboure unto his said Grace for the recovere and recon-
tenuance of an c^{ll}, whiche late was graunted unto the Mayre, Shireffs and Citicins of this Citie duryng the Kyngs pleasour and nowe of late at his highe court of Parliament last holden at Westminster resumed; and if it please the Kyngs grace of newe to graunt unto the Mayre, Shireffs and Citicins of this Citie, then it to be maid suer by avice of counceill lerned at the comons cost; and over that it was agreed that if the Chamberleyns of necessitie most make chevesaunce¹ at London of any person, then the said presence hath faithfully promysed, undertaken that they shall save the seid chambre harmeles for eny some of mony as shall happyn to be borrowed by the same Chamberleyns ther for the well and gud expidience of the recovere of the same c^{ll} (*fo. 65*).

It was agreed that wrytting suld be maid unto the right highe and noble princes, my lady the Kyngs moder, my lord Chaunceler, my lord of Derby, and to Sir Thos Lovell, bechyng (*sic*) theym or every of theym to be good meane unto the Kyngs grace for this Citie for the said c^{ll}, which the Kyng at his highe court of Parliament last holden at Westminster hath resumed into his hands and by acte of the same Parliament hath graunted the same c^{ll} unto the Lord Roos and to Sir Thos Lovell.

MS. B/Y *fo. 126b.* Petition of the Vintners.

Shewes mekely we your concitezeyns Vynters that we haf divers tymes shewed to you that men of other craftes that selles swete wyne and other wyne for thair wyne be retail within the franchise of this Cite whilk swete wyne are pertenant to us als a parcell of oure crafte suld and awe after custome of this Cite be contributory to us in bryngyng furthe of oure pagent in Corpus Christi play lyke als merchantz makes us to pay to tham when we mell wyth Pruys Flanders and other plaes of whilk swete wyne we

Saviour 40s. St. Sampsons 7£. Holy Trinity in Kings Court 12£. St. Crux in Fossgate 12£. St. Denis 108s. St. Margaret 35s. 8d. St. Laurence 20d. St. Peter in the Willows 12s. St. Edward 8s. St. Nicholas in Walmgate 5s. St. George 2s. St. Helen in Fishergate 2s. 6d. All Saints in Fishergate 2s. 6d. St. Mary Bishophill Senior 68s. St. Clements 20s. St. Mary Bishop-hill Junior 26s. 8d. St. Nicholas in Micklegate, 84s. 8d. St. Martin in Micklegate, 84s. 5d. St. Gregory, 36s. 11d. St. John's Ouse Bridge 8£ 13s. 4d. All Saints North Street 6£ 10s. Total 136£ 11s. 8d.

¹ Make chevesaunce; contract a loan. N.E.D.

MS. B/V

have yit no answer nor remedy. And worshipfull lord, and sirs, like you to consider that we haf bene in possession of swete wyne sold by retail in so mykill that Richart Russell when he was our pageant maister receyved pageant silver of Thomas Dam and all other after thair afferant for sellyng of swete wyne at that tyme and so evermore other men when thay occupied the same office and also be alde custome and usage of this Cite for serchyng of swete wyne pertyens to the serchours of the vynters and to no nother in so mykill that noght lang tyme passed our sercheours at commandement of the Mair at that tyme and hys Consell serched swete wyne and other things of this Cite and at that tyme our sercheours in presence of the Mair fand in the house of John Asper in Stayngate a vessell of swete wyne unabell to be sald and in other places also, whilk werr forfet and the heuedes smyten oute openly in syght of the people.

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fo. 65.

Letter sent to the King's mother.

To the right myghty Prynces and our full especiall and singler good lady the Kings Moder

Right high and myghty princes, and our ful especiall and singler good ladie, wee your full humble servaunts in our most lawlie wise recomend us unto your good Grace, thankyng hertelie the sam of the monyfold tendrenes and good ladiship to us hertofore shewed, beseching the same of good contynuaunce, and that it wald please the same to be unto us at this tyme of our gret necessite especiall and singler good lady and meane unto the Kyngs grace; where as we have knowlege that his highnes at his highe court of Parliament, last holden at Westminster, hath resumed into his hands lxxxxviiij¹ of the fee ferme, tolls, murage of this his Citie of York, as parcell of thenheritaunce of the lord Roos, whiche lxxxxviiij¹ late were graunted by the Kyngs highnes to the Maire, Shireffs and Citicins of the said Citie as well in releve of the gret povertie, ruyne and decaye that the said Citie is in as to the reparacons of the walles and mony other importable chargez to the same belongyng, for if it¹

fo. 66.

War needs in the City wards.

1 May 7 Hen. VII (1492).

Determynd that every ward withyn this Citie shall have a chamberleyn assigned unto the same to oversee what maner ordnaunces and abiliments of warre is nedefull at every ward, and the chamberleyn to cause the same ordinaunce and abiliments of new to be mayd and amended and of the comon costs to lay doun therfor.

¹ Letter ends abruptly at the bottom of the folio.

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fo. 41.

Talk and rumour.

5 May 7 Henry VII (1492). *Present*—R. Hancock, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 9 of the xxiv.

At the which day oon John Galton delyverd a bill of the words, the which oon Thomas Sturgeon of Lancaster shold say not sounding to the high pleasour and save gard of the Kings person, the tenour of the which bill ensueth

(fo. 41b). The same vth day of May.

And apoun that both the within writen John Galton and Thomas Sturgeon was sent fore tofore the said presents, and the said John Galton shewed the articles of the said bill and the same Thomas Sturgeon answerd and said—As to the article that wher Sir Thomas Broghton shold of late aben a Ravenglasse he not that denyed, and as to that at my lord of Northumberland and my lord Straunge wer all as oon he denyed not that, and also to the article the which the said John laid ayanest hym that he shold say that the lord Straunge latelie was at Namptewich, and thidder cam unto hym many of the gentilmen of Lancasshire and the constablez of the same, he that answerd and shewed it was true.

Item the same day William Thomson was sent for and cam was examyned what language he hard Thomas Sturgeon say to John Galton in his house. He said he hard the said Sturgeon say that Sir Thomas Broghton bot late landed at Raven glasse, to the which he answerd and said that ther wold noon say that bot fals harlotts for he knewe that it was contrarie he was of Saynt George day ther. Item he hard the said Sturgeon say that my lord of Northumberland and my lord Straunge wer all oon and wold be and that we shold have a new chaunge be mydsomers day.

fo. 68b.

The King's reply about the Fee-Farm.

29 May, 7 Hen. VII (1492).

Sir Ric York, Knyght and Alderman of this Citie, delivered unto my Lord Mayre two lettres missive, wherof one was direct from the Kyngs good Grace unto the Maier, Aldermen, Common Counseill and Commonaltie of this Citie, and other from my lady the Kyngs moder to my said Lord Maier, Aldermen etc.

By the Kyng

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you wele, latyng you wite that our trusty and welbeloved Counseillour, Sir Ric. York, knight, and William Fairfax, Recorder of our Citie of York, have made diligent suyte and instance unto us for your yerely discharge of iiij^{xx} xviii^{li} of your fee ferme during our pleasour according to theeffect of our lettres patents made unto you in that partie, and have humbly besought us on your behalf to knowe our pleaser and mynde touchyng thabating of the said some. We certifie you that for the singler favour and tendreness that we owe

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and bere unto our said Citie, and to the universall wele and tranquillite theroff, and trusting in thassured contynuanee of your feithfull disposicions unto us hereafter according (*fo.* 69) to your dueties, be content that ye be abated and discharged of the said some accordyng to theeffecte of our said graunt, any act of Parliament or grant by us maid of thinheritances of the lord Roos unto our trusty and right welbeloved counseillour Sir Thomas Lovell or to any other notwithstanding, and that ye will yeve full feith and credence unto our said Counseillour and the Recorder in suche thynges as they shall shewe unto you on our behalfe touching this matier.

Yeven under our signet at our Manour of Shene, the xvij day of May the seventh yere of our reign.

Whiche lettre was opynly rede tofore the said presence. And after the first day of Juny the same letter was opynly rede tofore the serssours and other honestie persons assembled in the Yeldhale within the Citie. And the said Sir Ric. York, knyght, ther opynly shewed the credence as after ensuyth.

First, that our soveraigne lord the Kyng gaff in commandement unto hym, and to Maister Recorder, to charge the Maier of this Citie and the Comon Counsell of the same to se that the lawez of God wer kept, observed and executed as fere as in theym were.

Item, that the Maier and Shireffes of this Citie suld trewly observe and execut the Kyngs lawez egal to every man, and not lettyng for fere, favour or reward of any person as they wold eschewe his gret displeasour. Item that al vacabunds and vagaraunts or mysgided persons, ether men or women within this Citie, shuld in al goodly hast be avoid this Citie and suburbs of the same apou payn of imprisonment.

Item that no citicine or inhabitant within this Citie shal not be reteyned with ne belongyng unto any lord, knyght, esquier or gentelman, bot only unto the Kyng and the Mayre of the Citie for the tyme beyng; and that al knyghts, esquyres, gentilmen and other inhabitaunts within the Aynestz shall atend apou the Mayre of the Citie, and to resort unto the same at every tyme (*fo.* 69b) when they shalbe comaunded, and not to be reteyned with no lord ne gentelman ne to ride ne go to no maner journey nether Scotland ne other.

Item that this Citie be yerly fortified with gounes, gonne poudre and other abilements of warre, with part of suche mony as the Citie hath of the kyngs gifft and graunt, and the walles, dikes and yates to be maid, clenched and repared in suche wise as may be suertie and savegard for the same.

By the Kyngs moder.

Right welbeloved we grete you well; and where we have receyved your lettre dated the first day of May, and undrestand the contynue and effect of the same, with the credence of our right

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welbeloved Sir Richard York, knyght, your brother and cetezin, berer theroff; wherupon we accordyng to your desire have meved the Kyngs Grace in your matier and finde hym right wele and favourably disposed toward you, and saieth he wilbe your good and graciouse lord, wherunto ye may fermely trust; and as wel in your said matier as in any other thyng that we may do concerning the wele of you and the Citie ther ye shal always have us your good lady as fer as right and good conscience shall require. Yeven under our signet at the manor of Shene the xjth day of May.

fo. 71b.

Getting money for the King's tax.

By the Kyng.

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you well; and wher as our welbeloved, John Shawe, Thomas Fulneby and Richard Russel, collectours of the quindezime¹ graunted unto us within our Citie of York have paied unto us the hole duetie of thinhabitaunts within the said Citie in trust to have that is not come to their hands to be levied upon the distresses taken for the same entent, we wol and charge you therfor that whansoever they shall desire you to assiste theym for the levying of that is behind in the parisches they dwell in and in other places of their colleccion ye geve unto theym suche your favour be it by vendicon of their distresses or by any other wey reasonable ye may herein shewe unto us such your toward disposicon to our pleaser as we shall not forgete. Yeven under our signet at our manoir of Shene the xxviiiij day of May.

fo. 73.

Penalties for not carrying torches in Corpus Christi Procession. Foreign drapers.

28 June (1492).

Agreed that all suche forfetts be forfett for beryng of torchez the morn aftre Corpus Christi day last past acordyng to olde ordinaunce theruppon provided shulbe levied and rased withouten pardon, that is to say of Roger Appulby, one of the xxiiij xl^s, of William Barker, merchaunt, an other of the xxiiij xl^s and of thartificers of cordwaners x^{li} for nowne beryng of ther torchez acordyng to diverse old ordinaunces theruppon ordered and provided.

Agreid that the foreyn drapours of the contrey frome this day forward shall have tables sett oppenly in Thursday market and theire sell ther clothez by retale and in none other place to thentent that the sercheours of taillours of this Citie may have resorte to survewe, serche of all suche clothiez whether thay be able or noo as it appereth in divers articlez and provisions therupon mayd hereafter the ij^d day of August next ensuyng.

¹ Quindecim ; tax of one fifteenth.

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fo. 73b.

The dispute between the Cordwaners and the Weavers.

6 July (1492).

Agreid that the cordwaners of this Citie shall goo to the wevers of the same to thentent that a lovyng communicacon betwix may be had as tuching the beryng of their torchez tofore the holy Sacrament the morne after Corpus Christi day. And uppon such comunicacion had, if the said occupacones of wevers and cordwaners can be agreid of the premissez, than they to come tofore the Maire and his Council and yif a awnswer of the said comunicacon, wheder thai be agreid or noo; and if thai cannott be agreable emonst thamselve than the Maire and the Council for to take suche ordre betwix thame as thame shall (*sic*) most expedient in that behalve.

fo. 76b.

Drapers ordinances.

2 August. 7 Hen. VII (1492).

Agreed that a bill of certeyn articles and ordinauncez pytt to my lord the Maier and Common Counseill the xxviii day of Juny last past at the humble petition and instance of the good men of the hole crafts and occupacons of drapours and taillours within the Citie, for the publique well of the Kyngs liege people and wurship of the Citie, and honestie of the said crafts and occupacons, shuld be registred and adjoyned to other auncient ordinauncez of the same crafts and ocupacionz fermely hereafter to be observed and kept.

First it is ordeyned and established that from the fest of Seynt Martyn in Wynter Byshop next ensuyng no foreyn drapour of the contrey or any other person beyng unfraunchest that custumably cometh (*fo. 77*) and bryngeth to this Citie wollen cloth to sell by retail from the seid fest of seynt Martyn forward go haukyng with ther cloth within the Citie or suburbs of the same, bot that they bryng and have all such wollen cloth as they have unto the Thursday market within this Citie, and ther lay it opyn upon tables or stalles or otherwise, and to sell it in groce or by retail as theym please to thentent that the serssors of drapours and taillours within this Citie shall resort, viewe and serche all suche wollen cloth whether they be able and wett, so that the Kyngs liege people be not disceyved by the said foreyns, as in byeng unable and unwet cloth for able and wett; and if any foreyn be found hawkyng and sellyng or profering to sell by retail any wollen cloth in any other place within this Citie or suburbs of the same bot in the said Thuresday market, or if that any foreyn be found sellyng any unable or unwett cloth for able and wet then the same foreyn and seller to forfet al the cloth so sold or profered to be sold, wherof the one half to be employed to the common well of this Citie, and that other half to the well of the said craffts or ocupacions by even porcions.

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Item that the said foreyns that custumably comes to this Citie to sell wollen cloth by retaill bryng all theyr cloth or clothes to the said Thuresday market, as is tofor seid, and not to leve theyme in theyr innes, loggyngs or other placez and herafter bryng theym furth by parcels, apou payn of forffettour of xl^d as oft tymes as any of theyme is found defectyve, evenly to be devyded as is above seid.

Item that Kendale men that bryngeth wollen cloth to this Citie to sell in grose or by retaill, that they from hensforth sell in grose in theyre innes and loggyngs and by retaill in the said Thurseday market, and not to go hawkyng and sell in any other place apou payn of forffettour of theyr clothes, as is above seyd etc, provided alway that thez (*fo. 77b*) ordinauncez to fore seid or any article of the same be no prejudiciall ne hyndering to any husband man or other poure creature of the contrey beyng unfraunchest that maketh a pece or two of wollen cloth in a yere within his awn house and bryngeth to this Citie to sell by retaill, bot that it be lefull to the said husbandman or other poure creature so that they be trewe and veray awners of the cloth to sell the said cloth or clothes by retaill apou the Payment or any other place within this Citie and suburbs of the same, thes ordinauncez or any article therof not withstandyng ; so that every person that selleth any wollen cloth by retaill or in grose and havyng over thre yerds of brod cloth and vj yerds of narowe pay yerely pagiant silver unto the pagiant maisters and sersours of the said crafts and occupacions of drapours and taillours, as hath ben accustomed of auncient tyme heretofore.

fo. 78b. **A York citizen wrongfully imprisoned at Tadcaster.**

Letter to Sir William Gascoigne.

29 August 8 Hen. VII (1492).

Right wirshipfull and our especiall good maister, we recomend us unto your maistership; and for as myche as we be credebly enformed that the bailly and tenauntez of the lordship of Tadcastre, wher ye have the rewle, hath taken one Thomas Spicer, the Kyngs true subgiet and our cociticine and nebour, and hym wrongfully emprisoned in Tadcastre; and over that the said bailly and tenauntz hath taken an other of our cociticinz and nebours, called John Cooke, and hym sore bette within our fraunchesiez and libertiez, and afterward taken hym furth of our seid fraunchiesiez and hym enprisoned contrary to the Kyngs lawez, and to the gret breche of our seid libertiez and fraunchiesiez; with whiche breche (*fo. 79*) and demeanance we trust ye be not content ne pleased, prayng yow to giffe en comaundement unto the said bailly and his deputie to let the said Thos. Spicer go at his libertiez and large, and also of an answer from you herin in wryttyng by this

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berer, we pray you, and almyghtye Jesu kep yowe. From Yorke the xxix day of August.¹

fo. 79b.

The Tadcaster affair.

31 August 8 Hen. VII (1492).

A scoler of Tadcastre called Thomas Jakson, beyng in the Shireffs ward, whiche was one of theyme that was at the bettyng of John Cook of this Citie, chandler, and his servaunt, and takyng theym furth of the libertiez and fraunchese of this Citie, was sent fore and come tofore the said presence and by the same examyned, said that Robert Deconson, the under bailly of Tadcaster, sent hym and diverse other of the same town to seche and bryng in to the same a servaunt of the seid John Cooks and one Caton son of this Citie, and so he and the said other persons to the nombre of xij came and overtoke the said John Cooke servaunt and Caton son in the hie waye on this half Tadcastre nere the galowes ther, and bad theyme come agayn and submyt theyme to the said under bailly and they shuld have no harme; and the servaunt of John Cooks said they wald not come at hym and therwithall one John Bacheler stroke at the said servaunt and he gaff bake, and then a yong prest with a swerd stroke the said servaunt on the hede and hym sore wounded; with whiche strok he fell on the ground and the prest opon hym; and then com to the said afray the said John Cooke, and William Caton, and seyng his servaunt hurt on the ground lighted and wold have rescussed his said servaunt; and then as the said John saith ther beyng present to fore the same presence said that the said John Bachiler, the prest, and the said scoler stroke at hym and hym sore hurt and wounded and the scoler said he had no wepen and staffe to afterward he fand one at his feet which he toke in his hands and so led theyme to Tadcastre with force; and ther thei wer in prison to they fand suertie etc.

fo. 84.

The Tadcaster affair.

11 Sep. 8 Hen. VII (1492). *Present*—Thomas Scotton, Mayor, 9 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 7 of the xxiv.

At whiche day it was shewed by the mouthes of Thomas Gray, Alderman, and John Stokdale, one of the Shyreffs of this Citie, that wher as the matier of variaunce for the imprisonment of Thomas Spycer, merchaunt, and Robert Deconson, tanner, citicins of this Citie, which matier the day before Sheriff was at Ripele comond afor my lord of Surrey and ther by my lord it was determyned; that one Thomas Jakson of Tadcaster, which of late

¹ Thomas Spicer and his wife were riding home from Hedley (? Hadley) where they had been on pilgrimage; he was arrested in Tadcaster and put into the Tolbothe there. John Cooke, a chandler of York, was arrested near the chapel of St. Mary at the east end of Tadcaster and also imprisoned. The Council wrote for advice to Sir Thomas Wentworth, sheriff of Yorkshire.

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was emprisoned in the kydcote by commandment of the Maier to the tyme he fand suertie to be of good beryng and conservacion of the Kynges peace, and at the instance and desire of my said lord dimysed out of prison and put at large, shuld on Thursday next ensuyng be enlawed and within the Citie unto the Sheriffs ward and ther to remayne unto that tyme be fynd suertie as well for his good beryng, conservacion of the peace and of late brekyng of thes liberties of the Citie or of any other accion; and also that a distresse of late taken at Oxton by the bailly of Ainsty for blamiche ferane¹ and other dueties, and at the desire and instance of the said lord had agayn to Oxton shuld be enlawed agayn on Thursday next ensuyng, and Sir William Gascoigne and Robert Barker bailly of Tadcaster suertie for the said distresse to be enlawed as abovesaid.

fo. 87.

The Cordwainers.**Complaint of damage at Tang Hall.**

26 October 8 Hen. VII (1492). *Present*—Thomas Scotton, Mayor, 6 Aldermen, the Recorder, 8 of the xxiv.

As the hole crafft of the cordweners within this Citie and suburbs have forfet x^{li} for the noun beryng of ther torches the morn next after Corpus Christi day last past, the which x^{li} my lord Maier hath oft and many tymes comaunded the serssors of the said craft to bryng in and lay down the said x^{li} and to put it in the will and pleasour of hym and his brether, the whiche to do they refuse and denyeth to pay any suche forfett; wherfor John Smyth and Th. Rechardson, two of the sersors of the said craft wer comaunded to prison and ther yet remayned, and John Crake and Th. Chalaner, other two of the sersors of the said craft, at such tyme as they wer sent for by my lord Mayer withdrew tham and wold not come in; wherfor as for ther disobesaunce and denyez it is determyned that my lord Maier suld send the Chamberleyns and ther comon sergeantez and take distressez of the cordweners and every of theym of suche stuff as may be found in ther housez to the value x^{li}, and that to be leved incontinent without pardon. And after my lord the Maier send the vj comon sergeaunts of this Citie to every cordweners house within the Citie and suburbs commaundyng and charyng theym to bryng hym all suche stuff belongyng to the said craft as they couth fynd in the said housez or shopes; and the said vj sergiaunts brought into the Counsaile Chambre apon House brige tofore my lord Maier and Chamberlayns as myche stuff of the cordweners as was valewed to xiiij^{li} or more.

(fo. 87b). Item the same day Sir Ric. Godson, chapleyn to Maister John Hert, residenciar off the Cathedrall church of Seynt Peter of York delivered to my lord the Maier a lettre myssyve to

¹ Blamich ferane; rent paid in silver; not in service or labour.

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the said Maier and his brether direct from the right prepotent lord and earl of Surrey, whiche specified that the said Maister John Hert had maid a gret and grevouse compleynt to the said lord that certen persons of this Citie of late hath in riotouse wise broke down and pulled up the hegges and whik wood and filled dykes about the Tanghall, contrary right and to the gret endamage of the same Maister John Hert. And after the said letter was opynly rede tofore the same presence it was ordered that William Barker, merchaunt, and John Stokdale, two of the xxiiij, of the Comon Counseill of this Citie suld incontinent go and vewe the said hegges and dykes, and therupon to come and acertayne the said presence howe and what plite they found theym, whiche William and John went personaly about the hegges and dikes of the said Tanghall and, or the said presence departed, came agayn upon ther honestez said and acertayned my lord Maire and the same presence that they found no hegges brokyn, whikwod pulled up ne the dykez stoped, bot in one place a litill gappe maid toward Saynt Nicholas by the inhabitants of this Citie to put in theyr catell at the same for perusyng of ther comon within the said Tangfeld in tyme of amerce whiche breche was not to the ne value of iiij^d as they wold dapose upon theyr sacrament

(fo. 88.) 12 November

The searchers of the cordweners and certain members in the name of the whole craft appeared and laid down a sealed purse in wch was x^{li} their forfeit asking that the whole of that sum should not be taken from them.

fo. 148b.¹

Offer of peace by France accepted.

The xvij day of Novembre the viiith yere of the reign of our soveraigne lord Kyng Henry the vij by the right reverent fader in God, William, Thabbot of the monasterie of seynt Marie Virgyn byside walles of the Citie of York was the kyngs lettre missyve delivered unto my lord Mayer and his Brethern at Freer Austyns, the tenour wherof ensuyth.

By the Kyng.

To our trusty and right welbeloved in God Thabbot of our monastery of Seint Marye besids oure Citie of York, oon of our Counseillours, and to our trusty and welbeloved the Maier and his Brethern of the same oure Citie.

Trusty and welbeloved in God we grete you wele; and howe be it the Frenschmen, mysdoubting to have been beseged, have bifor our discent and sithens also fortified this toun of Bulloyn by thadvise of the wisest of Fraunce with bulwarks, fauce brayes and othre subtilties for defenses, and in as moch as it is the furst entre from our pale of Calais to our royme of Fraunce, and the

¹ This document is inserted at the end of House Book No. VII.

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chieff fortresse, thay have put therin the most hablemen of werre and artillerie thay coude gette soo ferforth as they thinke it impregnable, yet natheles we have layne tofor it thies xvj dayes and with makyng trenches and our approches with the contynuell schoting of our ordinaunces we have greatly defaced the same, albeit the winde hath been soo contrary that we have nat had our grosse artillery to have annoyed this toun therwith in tyme covenable; trouth it is that in this doing we have lossed many of our folks to our great displeaser, God not offended; trouth it is also that the premishez with our long making werre by the space of xxx dayes in the french kyngs obeissance, notwithstanding the same, our cousin offreth by the mouthe of the lord Tord and othre his commissioners a good and honourable peax to us and prouffitable to our subgietts with the some of vij^c m^l scuts and five and fourty, to bee payed unto us by dayes and yeres, the like therunto hath not been graunted to any kyng of England in tyme passed, nor to noon othre prince in mariage, as the Frensch men say, nor otherwise; with this there is entre of speche and communication of a mariage bitween the Daulphin and oon of our doughters; there is a clause inserted also in this treatie that it shalbe liefull to us to comprise our alies, and in especiall our cousin Tharcheduc of Burgoyne, if he wilbe comprised, and to helpe (*fo.* 149) and assist hym with men and money whansoever the said frensch kyng or any othre shall invade hym hereafter, the said peax natheles betwene us to stande in her strenght and vertue. Uppon this offre we have doon to bee assembled thestats and noble men of this our armye and have debated this matier with theym in sundry wises, and at lenght they allege unto us that if we shuld approche the toun by way of assault, which is thus gretly fortified and defended, it myght aventure put many great and right great noble men in nere avantur, and the geting therof also shuld cause the said frensche kyng never, for shame, taggre to peax; they allege over this that sithens our comyng into thies parties we have had nether help nor assistance of any oure frends, and as to the kyng of Romaines we be ascertayned that he and the prince of Almayne have concluded to kepe a day of convenceion at Frankford on Seint Lucy day, the xiiij day of Decembre, next to come, wherthurgh there is no trust of his help in this behalf. The said estats and noble men shewe unto us ferthermor the colds and tempests of wynter with the grettest sikenesses and annoyauncs that our people may take therby, and in conclusion they have humbly desired and besought us in consideracon of the premishez, and that we be here aloon this farre in thobeissaunce forsaide without the helpe of any man, lord or prince, to accept this said peax in especiall sithens it is to our honour and to the surtie and prouffett of our royme and subgietts; for thies causes, and that by contynuanee of warre we shuld leese muche of oure people and

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percas¹ of the grettest, and by the contenance of warre also we shuld be dreven of necessite to charge our royaume eftsones with great sommes of money, which we wold be loth to do without right a great and urgent cause; for the wele of our subgiетts is oon of the things next our awne suertie we tendre moost; we at the humble desire and peticcion of the said estats and noblemen have with thair advise and counsaill accepted the said peace and after the publicaccion therof made by the said frenshe kyng for his part, we have doon the same to be proclaimed for ours; the lord Tords,² Therle Vaudon, the lord Smyse,² the lord Andrewes, the Basterd of Burbon, the lord Pyennes, the lord Dooters,² the lord Mervueillers and othres desiren to come on Tuysday next to visite us in our felde, whiche doon we purpose, god willing, to drawe us and our hoost to our toun of Calais and so home to our royaume forsaid. Yeven undre our signet in our feld befor Bulloigne the vth day of Novembre the viijth yere of our reigne.

fo. 90. **Corpus Christi procession; the Weavers and Cordwainers.**

7 Jan. 8 Hen. VII (1492-3). *Present*—Thomas Scotton, Mayor, 7 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 5 of the xxiv.

Determynd that the wevers and cordweners accordyng to an auncient ordinaunce maid in the second tyme of maraltie of Sir Ric York Knyght shall yerely hereafter in the morn next after Corpus Christi day peceably go in procession with theyr torches tofore the blessed Sacrament from the abbey churche of the Trenite in Mekilgate unto the Mynster in maner and forme followyng—that is to say, the wevers on the right hand with xiiij torches and the cordweners on the lefft hand with xiiij torches apon payn of forfeiture of x^{li}.

fo. 92b. **Notice of civic occasions.**

3 Feb. 8 Hen. VII (1492-3). *Present*—Thomas Scotton, Mayor, 9 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 9 of the xxiv.

Agreed that every Alderman and other of the xxiiij and Comon Counseillours of this Citie shall at all tymes hereafter come to counseills, offerants, processions, sermons and other assemblez, they and every of theym lafully warned, that is to say, thaldermen by the Maiers Esquyers and every of the xxiiij by the comon Sergiaunts to the maise, and who so maks default and comys not at all suche counseills sermons, offeraunts, processions and other assemblez within the space of an houre to theym shewed by the said Esquyers and Sergeiaunts, without an resonable and lafull excuse, to pay at every tyme so makyng default iiij^d, and if they be not lafully warned by the Esquyers and Comon Sergeiaunts then they to paye the said payn of iiij^d.

¹ Percas ; perchance.

² The York copyist had difficulty with the French names; he puts Tords for Querds, Snyse for Guyse, Dooters for Dorrers.

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fo. 96b.

The Cutlers' pageant. Chapel Clerk's wages.

12 April (1493).

Agreed that wher the cutlers of this Citie have of auncien tyme resaved and yit yerly resaveth to the sustentacon of their paigent of the lyn wevers of this Citie v^s which thai er payed yerly by the hands of the Chamberleyens—it is ennakted that the said cutlers shall resave yerely the said v^s of the said Chamberleyens in maner and forme above said.

Agreed that the Bryge maisters of Ousebrig for the tyme being shall pay to John Py, the clerk of Seinte William Chapell his wages to hyme apertyng by reson of his office from hensforth quarterly after the custome and usage had and used emongst other parish clerks of this Citie.

fo. 97.

**Judgement in the dispute between the weavers
and the cordwalners.**

8 May 8 Hen. VII (1493). *Present*—Nicholas Lancaster, Mayor, The Abbot of St. Marys, Richard Chomley, 10 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 13 of the xxiv.

It was shewed by the mouth of my lord the Mair howe that the reverent fader in god William Synowez, abbet of Seynt Mary Abbey, the nyght last to fore past send unto my said lord the Maier a gentilman of the said abbet, called Thomas Lovell, and shewed unto the Maier that this present day, at ix of the klok afore none, the said Abbet and Ric. Chomley wold come unto the Freers Austyns desiryng the Maer, his Brether and other of the Common Counseill to mette theym ther to thentent the said Abbot and Ric. Chomley, accordyng to the Kyngs writyng, myght take a loufyng concord in the matier of variaunce betwyx the craftesmen of the wevers within this Citie on the one partie and the cordweners of the same Citie on that other partie. After whiche message shewed, my said lord the Maier and al the said presence furthwith went on to the saide Freers Austyns and ther at the north end of the kyrk thei met the said right reverent fader in God and Ric. Chomley, and so to gedder went in to a place of Freere William Bewyk at the said north end; and the said Abbot shewed and opynly red the Kyngs lettrez mysyve, in whiche emong other thyngs it was conteyned that the said Abbot, Ric. Clyfford and Ric. Chomley call tofore theym the parties tofore seid, and to here and examyn the causes and travers emong the same partiez, and over that to determyn and fynysche the said travers and variaunce. By vertue of which lettre the said Abbot and Ric. Chomley thought they shuld determyn the seid causez without advyce of any other, wherunto my lord the Maier answerd and said how that the Kyngs noble progenitours, of theyr especiall grace of auncient tyme, hath graunt under theyr lettrez patents unto the Maier, Shireffs, Aldermen and other of the Comon Counseill of this Citie ful power to

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make ordinauncez and other estabbischments for the publike well of this Citie and cociticins of the same; and ferthermore that to here and determyn al maner causez, quarels, controversiez, debats and demaundez emargyng and surdaunt¹ among any persons beyng cociticins in the same Citie or elles before the justices of Assisez or by other mene (*fo.* 97b); al whiche grauntez, libertiez and privileges our soveraigne lord the Kyng, that nowe is, of his most tendre grace hath confirmed and ratified; for whiche consideracon my said lord Maiour, his brether Shireffs and al other of the Comon Counseill of this Citie wold not in any wise consent that the said Abbot and Ric. Chomley or any other foreyn shuld by coloure or vertue of any wryttyng from the Kyngs grace or from any other entermett theym of any cause, matier or accion surdaunt or meved betwix any of the citicins of this Citie, whiche in any wise shuld sound unto the breche of the fraunchesiez and libertiez of the same. Wherto the said Abbot and Ric. Chomley answerd and instantly required and prayed my said lord the Maiour and al the said presence that insomyche as the Kyngs highnes hath writtyn unto theym comaundyng theym by the same wrytyng, in avoidyng his gret displeasour, to apeace the above said variaunce, that it wold please my lord the Maier and the said presence that they myght somthyng do them that shuld please the Kyngs good grace in the premysez, and over that the said reverent fader in God thabbot seyde and tofore al the said presence opynly by his own mowth shewed that rather or he shuld do or consent to any maner thyng that wer to the breche of the libertiez and fraunchisez, or unto prejudice of eny ordinauncez of this Citie he wer lever to take a thousand pound of the tresory of his monastery and cast down the water of Ouse, hertely prayng and in al curtase wise requireng that my lord Maiour and the said presence wold be of that will and mynd to suffre hym and the seide Ric. Chomley to have a comunicacon betwix the said crafftez, and they trust to God to take suche direccion in the said matier of variaunce as shal stand with the mynds and pleasour of the Maiour and the seide presence. After whiche request and instant disire, my lord Maiour by thassent of the said presence graunted unto the said Abbot an Ric. Chomley they shuld drawe a paupire of theyr mynds, and to lett my lord Maiour and the Counseill have a sight therof and theropon to giff answer agayn. Wheropon the seide Abbot and Richard Chomley drew a paupire of theyr mynds and send it to my lord Maier and Comon Counseill, whiche was over seen and ripeley examyned by the same, and in so myche as it was thought ther was no thyng comprised within same that was in prejudice and breche of any ordinaunce or libertie of this Citie, it was agreed that said Abbot the satterday next ensuyng, whiche was the xj day of May, if it so wold please hym com in to the Counseill Chambre opon

¹ Surdaunt; springing, arising from.

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Ousebrigge, and ther by the assent of al the Comon Counseill of this Citie to delivere unto the crafts of wevers and cordweners two paupirs of award for goyng in procession yerly hereafter with theyr torchez the morn next after Corpus Christi day, whiche paupir (*fo.* 98) of award was eftsones opynly rede to fore the said presence the said xj day of May and by the said Maiour and Comon Counseill affermed and establisched fermely hereafter to be observed and keped. The tenour of whiche award ensuyth—Where in tyme paste that variaunce and discord dependyng betwyx the craft of the cordweners of the Citie of Yorke of the oon partie, and the craft of the wevers theire of the other partie, as more at large dothe appere by the continue of a peticon or supplicacon presented of the behalve of the craft of the said cordweners unto the most noble grace and highnesse of the Kyng, our soverain and redoubted lord Kyng Henry the vij, and by the force and vertue of the most noble lettres of his said grace directed to his trusty and right welbeloved in God thAbbot of his monastery of Saint Marie besids her Citie of York, oon of his counseillours, and to his trusty and welbeloved servaunt, Richard Clifford, esquyer for his body, and Richard Cholmley, oon of his receyvours, for bering in order theire torchies afore the procession custumably and yerley used in the said Citie the friday next after the fest of Corpus Christi in his blessed honour and wurship; We therfore the above-named—heding and knawing the noble lettrez of the Kings grace forsaid, and serching the old laudable and usuall custumes of the said Citie for the hole proffet and well of the concitesyns their exercised, have this present Wednesday next after the fest of Seint John Beverley, that is to say, the eght day of May 1493 apperead and settled al maner of controversies, debats and discords above writen betwixt both the said parties dependyng . . . as touchyng the beryng of the seid torches . . .

We have ordayned and awarded that the craft of cordwayners of York, beyng franchest men, and thes that after thame shal come to be fraunchest within the said Citie, shall from this present day forthwerd and from hens contynuall, when the procession shalbe solempnely done the morowe next after Corpus Christi day, bere there torches honestly made and lighted with the craft of the wevers and going of the wevers left hand als hath ben here afore acustomed and als ordayned at the last season and tyme that Sir Richard York, knyght, was Mair there, and also at that tyme that William White was Maier, as evidently apperith by the ordinaunces and bookez to the said Citie perteynyng; provided alway in this award that for eny forfeitures or penalties of . . . at any tyme afore this day to the said Maier and Councell of the chambre injupertid or lossed by the said cordwayners for none beryng of the seid torches, they shall no payment make nor penalty lese bot frely and lowly submyt thame self (*fo.* 98b) to the said Maier for the tyme

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being and to his brethern and their compers, beseching theme of foryefnesse for thair obstinacy hertofore doon; and also we the said Abbot, Richard Clifford and Richard Cholmley awarded and ordained that the said cordwayners shal from hence forth for evermore, certain reasonable causes excepted, have serche of rede and blak ledders within theme self according to the endentour delivered theme under the seall of the office of the Marialtie of the said Citie in the tyme of William White, thenne being Maier, payng therfore to the Maier and Chamberlaines for the tyme being every yere xiijs^s iiij^d; and for the more stablishment and perfourmyng of this our awarde and ordinaunce we will that the same be written in the book belonging to the Chambre of the said Citie and ther remayne to thentent that the bothe crafts above named may have copies and knowlege of the same . . . Also we award and ordeyn that if the case so may befall that the cordwayners nowe being and also in tyme to come be of suche exilitie and nede that conveniently thei may not be of power to support the full charge of the nombre of their torchez bering, that then the said cordwayners may labour to the Maier and his brethere, for the tyme being, as thei shall thynk it most profitable according, and that this our award shalnot be denyed hereafter of the behalve of the craft of cordwayners in the name of all the hole craft at this day being within the Citie John Crake; John Smyth with other of the same craft have receyved this our award in writing and therto yeven there consents and assents, and in witnesse of the same I, William, Abbot aforsaid have written myn name in the ende of the award, and oon pauper have delivered to the right wirshipful Maier and his Brether, and an other pawper of the same like wise to the foresaid John Crake, John Smith etc. The day and yere above said.

William Abbot of York.

fo. 99.

Threatened invasion.

13 May 8 Henry VII (1493). *Present*—Nicholas Lancaster, Mayor, 9 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

The Maier shewed that the publike noyse and rumour was that the Kyngs enimys and rebelles beyng byond the sea with the lady Margaret, duches of Burgon, and en especiall oon callyng hym self Richard, duke of York and secund son to the Kyng Edward the iiijth, late Kyng of this realme, with other his adherents, entendeth in right short tyme to entre this the Kyngs realme; wherfor my said lord the Maier on the Kyngs byhalve, and as they wald answer unto the Kyngs highnes at theyr jouperty and perill, charges all the said presence and every of theym that they in there wards shuld prepare and make redy all suche ordinaunce and abiliments of warre as they had in theyr wards, and as well gunnes, gone stones, gone powder as portculez and other;

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also that every wardeyn to se almaner of reseants within theyr wards have theyr harnas redy as jake, salet, bowez, arowez and other weappyns as they wold answer for.

fo. 101¹ **Letter from the Earl of Surrey to the Mayor.**

24th July 8 Hen. VII (1493). *Present*—Nicholas Lancaster, Mayor, 10 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 8 of the xxiv.

. . . Wher the Kyngs good grace hath comaunded me by his lettrez to call tofore me almaner of gentilmen within this his shire of York, and to understand of theym what nombre of persones they woll serve his highness with all, upon an oure warnyng; for asmyche as it shuld be both noyaunce and costely to have the laboure to come before me, therfore I charge you in the Kyngs name to call to fore you all suche gentilmen as is within your office and rule, as well within the Citie of York as in Aynsty, and to understand of every of theym what nombre of folks with thair awn person thay woll serve the (*fo. 101b*) Kyngs highnes upon the said oure warnyng; and therupon to certifie me of every gentilmans nombre with his name; also subscribed in a bill after the copy whiche I send unto you herin closed; and every of the said gentilmen with thair servaunts shall have the Kyngs wags from the tyme of theyr departyng fro their houses unto the retorne to there homes ayen; prayng that this may be doon in all goodly hast upon the sight herof, and to acertan me of the same; and our Lord have you in his blessed saufe gard. Written in the Castell of Shereff hoton the xxiiijth day of July.

Your louffying frend Thomas Surrey.

Apon which lettre redyng it was agreed that my lord the Maier shuld write unto the said Erle, shewyng his lordship how that the Kyngs grace at his beyng here as well by his most drad comaundemant of his awn mouth as by his lettrez of plakard comaunded all the inhabitaunts and reseants within this Citie and also in Aynsty to be attendaunt apon the Maiour (*fo. 102*) for the tuicon and saufegard of this Citie and upon non other. The tenour of which certificate here after ensuyth;

To the right prepotent and my veray especiall and tender good lord Therle of Surrey.

Right prepotent and my veray especiall and tendre lord I in my most humble wise recomend me unto your good lordship; certifieng the same that I have resceyved your honerable lettre dated the xxiiijth day of July, wherin it pleased yow to charge me in the Kyngs name that I shuld call tofore me al suche gentilmen as be within York and Aynsty; my lord it pleased the Kyngs

¹ This document was begun on *fo. 101b* and crossed through. In the margin are the words *Vacat quia postea*. It is printed here in its proper place.

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grace beyng here, the third yere of his most noble regne, by his most dradfull comandement to charge all gentilmen and all other recaunts within Aynsty to attend upon the Maier and the Citie at al suche tymes as they shalbe required for defence of the same as more playnly appereth by his most noble lettrez of placard under his seale whiche I send unto you, my most trusty lord; wherfore please it your lordship to be unto this Citie as we have found you at al tymes and seasons our good and tendre lord, and that we may enjoye all privelegez, libertiez and grauntez unto us graunted by the Kyngs good grace in as ampull wise as we have don tofore.

From York the xxvijth day of July.

fo. 102. **The King is asked that Ainsty men may defend York.**

27 July 8 Henry VII (1493). *Present*—Nicholas Lancaster, Mayor, Sir William Stapelton, W^m Fayrfax, Recorder, and 9 others.

To the most high and myghty Cristen Prince and our most redoubted liege lord the Kyng.

Most high and mighty prince and our most redoubted liege lord we in the most humble wise recomend us unto your grace and highnes with all submyson due unto your roiall Maiestie; besechyng the same that wher it pleased your grace to direct your most drad and high comaundement under your signet to al the gentilmen and other receaunts and inhabitaunts within Aynsty, parcell of the countie of your Citie of York, to be attendaunt of the Maier at all suche tyme as they shalbe reasonable required for the defence and savegard of your said Citie, as in your said most high comaundement in writtyng more plenarly appereth, and now late my lord of Surrey by your high commaundement to hym direct for warnyng of gentilmen in York shyre to be attendaunt upon hym supposeth by vertue of your seid high comaundement gentlemen within Aynesty to be comprised wher in dede the said Aynesty is no parcell of York shire, bot parcell of the counte, wher if so please your highnes your Citie thus beyng in miserable ruyne and decaye and of veray litill power of people what by the lamentable plage of pestilence by whiche many ar decessed and many for fere of the same departed that the remenaunt with theym of Aynesty will unneth¹ suffice for defence of half the seid Citie, and so we most of necessite be compelled if any of your enimyns (*fo. 102b*) or rebellionz shuld attempte to aproche and invade your Citie, as God defend, to beseche your highnes of aid of two of the hundreds with some noble gentilmen, if any urgent case shall require, and we shall dayly beseche the gret God of batells to preserve your most noble and roiall person many woorlds to contene in felicite. From Yorke the xxix day of July.

¹ Unneth ; with difficulty.

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By the Kyng.

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you well; and accordyng to theeffect of your wryttyng to us at this tyme presented, we reteign in our remembraunce that by our oppen lettrez we comanded hertofore that gentilmen and other reseauts and inhabitaunts within the wappentake of Aynsty to be attendyng to the Maier of that our Citie of Yorke for the defence and savegard therof whensoever thai on our behalvse shuld be required therunto; how be it we thoght not therby to have thaime exempted ne discharged to serve us when the case shuld require for the generall suerty of this our realme as we doubte not your wisdomes can perfitefully conside and discern; wherfor and in asmyche as by our especiall provision and comaundement our right trusty and right welbeloved cosin Therle of Surre is appointed for your allez suertie, if they come betwixst Scotland and you, or in any part beyonde our ryvier of Trent to be between you and theym, and therfor and in that caas of landyng our expresse mynde is that as well thes gentilmen of the said Aynesty as al other of the North geve their attendaunce uppon our said cosyne, and on other side be it so that our rebelles land by south our said river of Trent then shal we be betwen you and theym, and in that caas of theyr landing we be content the said gentilmen which be nowe reseant within the said wappentake of Aynsty and ne mo nor non other geve theyr attendaunce uppon our said Citie, for els every gentilman myght by reason of this privilege make his dwellyng place there to our dammage that we ne wold; and therfor we straitley charge you that whansoever the same our rebelles come in by Scotland or lande in any part of the north beyond our said river as above, that then as well ye of our said Citie and al thes of Aynsty geve your attendaunce and theyre uppon the same our cosin, ne doubting we with Gods good grace we shall provide for the spede releve of our said Citie in caas of nede, as largely and as hertely as any our noble progenitors or predecessours have don in tyme passed. Yeven undre our signet at our towne of Lichefeld the vj day of August.

To our trusty and welbeloved the Maier, Aldermen and Common Counsaill of our Citie of York.

fo. 100b.

The blacksmiths and bladesmiths.

25 June 8 Henry 7 (1493). *Present*—Nicholas Lancaster, Mayor, 8 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 8 of the xxiv.

Agreed at the especiall prayer and request of all the artificers of the mysteriez of blaksmythez and bladsmythez of this Citie, that from hensfourth thartificers of bladsmythez within this Citie shalbe discharged and dimissed of payng of paiaunt silver or any other maner of contribucon collected of blaksmythes of the same Citie; and in lyke case the blaksmythes to be discharged of al

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maner payment of dewtie, contribucions by thaym to the said bladsmythez in tyme past in any wise belonging or aperteynyng; and either occupacions to be clerly separat from other; and that the sercheours of bladsmythes shalnot make no serche of any axe or axes or eyetolez.

fo. 103.

A Prisoner to be sent to the King.

11 August 8 Henry VII (1493).

By the Kyng.

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you well, and wher as we understand that on Sir John Nevil, prest, detected of felony resteth in your ward and kepyng, we fer certein causez touching greatly the weall of us and many of our subgietts desire and also commaund you to do send hym suerly and spedily unto us to our Castell of Killyngworth at our costez and chargez without any failyng or excuse to be contrary as ye tendre our singuler pleasour. Yeven undre our signet at the logge at Draton the vijth day of August.

To our trusty and wel belouffed the Maier and Shireffs of our Citie of York.

fo. 107b.

Sick Pay.

10 January, 9 Hen. VII (1493-4).

Agreed that for as much as John Sefton, oon of the Maiors gentilmen, haith late ben vicited with the pestiferus sicknes in so much that he did no service to the Maire be the space of xiiij weks, which notwithstanding he asked his hole wages which of duett and right he myght not claime ne have; howe be it the said presents ar accorded and fully agreid that of curtesy and gentilnes and of no dewtie he shuld have his said wags for the said xiiij weeks.

fo. 108.

Choice of a Mayor.

15 January (1493-4).

The searchers of every craft with other citizens met in the Common Hall and wrote in a schedule the names of three Aldermen, of whom one should be Mayor. This schedule was delivered to the Mayor and Council who chose Michael White.

fo. 109b.

Ordinances of the Spurriers and Lorimers.

29 January (1493-4).

It is ennacted at the especiall request and humble supplicacon of the mastres of the craftez of sporyours and lorymers¹ of this Citie that from hensforth the said crafts shalbe reputed and taken

¹ For ordinances of Spurriers and Lorimers see *York Memorandum Book* vol. I, pp. 101-4.

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as one craft and to be equall of chargez one without other rate lyk as thay have ben of old tyme passed and to have of newe certein articles added to ther old ordinauncez as inseweth.

Furst it is ordened frome hensforth to be observed and keped, if eny foreyn of the said crafts hereafter set up and occupy as maister within this Citie or the suburbs of the same tofore he be serched, abled and admitted be the serchours of the said crafts or craft than he shall forfeit and pay xl^d. And if eny such forein be admytted and abled be the sercheours of the said crafts for the tyme being than he to pay for his upsett vj^s viij^d.

If eny person that have been apprentes within this Citie at the said crafts and wull sett up as maister in the said crafts he shall pay for his upsett iij^s iiij^d.

It shalbe leful to the sercheours of the said crafts to have serch of all maner sterepps, bytts, bridell or any other stuff or ware pertenyng to the said craftsman in this Citie or countrey and brought to this Citie to be sold so that the said ware or stuff be able and sufficiently wrought and not disteifful for the Kyngs people, and if it be sould unhable to be forfaite.

Every Maister of the said crafts upon Corpus Christi day yerly shall attend uppon the paiaunt frome the mateir of play be begune at the furst place unto such tyme as the said play be played and finished thugh the town at the last playse and whosoo is absent at any place except he be seik or have other excuse reasonable shall forfeit and pay ij^s.

Any forein or stranger brynging ony maner of stuff or ware pertenyng to the said crafts or ayther of thame to this Citie to be sold shall pay yerly to the sustentacon and bryngyng furth of the paiaunt of the said craftez iij^s.

fo. 111.

**The Earl of Surrey and the Abbot of St. Mary's
to enquire into the dispute between the City and
the Minster.**

14 February 9 Hen. VII (1493-4).

By the Kyng:

Trusty and welbeloved we gret you well, and where we understond to our grevouse displeasour that certeine matiers of varyance and aggruges be lately fallen betwixt you on the oon partie and the chapiter and the ministres of the cathedrall church thare on the other partie, we late you witt that we have appointed our right trusty and right welbeloved cosine, therl of Surre, and our full trusty Counsellour thabbot of our monasterie of Sencte Mary besides York, our Citie, to examyne the said matierres and to pacefie if thay can the said aggrugez or els to remitt the determinacon of the same to us and our Councel; and for that entent if the case so require to appoint two or thre of you to appere before us in all possible hast; wherfore we charge you to be confourmable

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to such order and direcon as thai shall sett betwixt you in the premissez and in the meane season to observe and fermely kepe our peas in avoiding our high displeasour and the grevous punysment that may theruppon ensue. Yeven under our signet at our palais of Westminster the vj day of February.

*fo. 111b.***Present to the Earl of Surrey.**

4 April : 9 Henry VII (1494).

Present—Michael White, Mayor, 9 Aldermen, 1 Sheriff, 8 of the xxiv.

Agreed that my lord Maier, his Brether and xxiiij shuld assemble and mete at the Counsell Chambre upon Ouse brigge in violet upon the morn after by vij of the cloke afore none and so to go unto Seynt Mary Abbey and ther to attend upon the right prepotent and noble lord Therle of Surrey and the reverend fader in God Thabbot of Seynt Mary Abbey for apeasyng of the matier of variaunce for comon in the vicare lees from Michelmes unto the fest of thannunciacon of our Lady.

Item it was agreed that the said right prepotent Lord of the comons cost of this Citie in consideracon of the gret payn and labour that he hath taken upon hym in that behalve shuld have a present of ij gret pykez, ij bremez, ij gret eylez and xij penyworth of maynbred.

*fo. 112b.***Charges against a Baker.**

xiiij Junii 9 Henry VII (1494).

A bill of compleynt agayn William Barker, baker, was rede at two severall tymes, the said William Barker bought corne in the comon market contrary to the ordinaunce of the craft of bakers. Item that wher he had bought twenty quarter of whete of an estraunger he wold not mete the said whete with the Kyngs standerd bot in dispit cast it from hym and broke it. Item that he rebukyd the enquest of the wardayn court for that they had presented a defaute of hym in the said court. Item that he put to saile maynbred and levagn bred whiche was chaffed and myldewed and unholosome for manys body. Item that he disobeyd my lord Maier and wold not come unto hym when diverse tymes he sent for hym ne wold not spere his wyndowe when he was comaunded by John Sponer, one of the Maier sergiaunts, bot rebuked the said sergiant. Item that when he came tofore my lord Maier he rebuked my lord Maier and the Chamberleyus sayng unto the Maier—Man, the next yere I shalbe your neighbour; and to one of the Chamberleyus—Come without the dore and I shall prove apou ye you said falsly of me, with myche other obprobriouse (*fo. 113*) langage.

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fo. 114. Letter from the Earl of Surrey about the dispute with the Minster Vicars.

19 September 10 Henry VII (1494).

Wher in tyme past I have hard the matiers depending in traverse betwixt you on the oon partie and the vicers of the Mynster of York on the other partie for a certein closyng and heggyng; for asmyche as by thexaminacon I have taken and hard in this behalve cannot set you at non accorde; therefore I charge you in the Kyngs name that accordyng to his high commaundement to me sent by his letters ye appoynt for you such persones as by you shalbe thought best within the Citie of York to appere before the Kyngs good grace and his Counsell now at the fest of halowemes next comyng, for thansweryng and declaring of your right and title concernyng the forsaid closing and hegging, for ye shall understand I have yeven like charge unto the forsaid vicars that thay appoynt for theym suche persones as by thaym shalbe thought convenyent to appere afore the Kyngs highness at the said fest; at the whiche fest I purpose with Gods grace to be with the Kings highness and than I shall shewe and declare before his grace thexaminacon aforsaid and what I sawe and founde therin

Your lovyng frende Thos Surrey.

fo. 114b. The Recorder sees the Earl of Surrey.

21 September 10 Henry VII (1494). *Present*—Michael White, Mayor, 7 Aldermen, one Sheriff, 16 of the xxiv.

Determynd that Maister Recorder shuld ride unto the right noble and prepotent lord Therle of Surrey from my lord Maier, Aldermen and Comon Councell of this Citie, besechyng hym to be good lord unto this Citie and that the Comons of this Citie may in peaceably wisse at michelmesse next comyng occupie theyr comon in the Vicars lees as they have don in other yeres past. And the morn next after Maister Recorder tofore my lord lord Maier etc shewed that my lord of Surrey was agreed that the Comons at theyr joupertie shuld occupie theyr comon in the vicars lees, and the commaundement to the contrary tofore send to my lord Maier Aldermen and Comon Councill in writtyng from the said Lord and Erle to be used.

fo. 115. The Commons refuse an offer by the Vicars.

19 October 1494. *Present*—Michael White, Mayor, 6 Aldermen, 11 of the xxiv.

Agreed that such offer as was maid be my lord Thabbot of Seinte Mary Abbay in the of the vicars of the Bedridyn as tuching a yerely rent to be paid to the Comons of this Citie for such comon as they clame in the vicarlees, and the said

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Vicars for the same rents to have the said lees severall all tymes of the yere shuld be accept and taken; and theruppon the sercheours of the diverse crafts which were in the said Comon Hall were called to for the said presence and demaunded if thai in the name of all the Comons wold be agreeable to the said offer, and thai asked respect of an awnswere to the morne after.

At the which day the sercheours of diverse craftes in the name of the Commonaltie delivered to the said Maier and diverse of the Councail in the said Comon Hall an awnswer of the premiszez in wrytyng, theeffect wherof was that the Comons were acorded and determyned that thai wold have and use ther etage and comon as well in the said Vicars leis as thai had in other placez yerly duryng the tyme accustomed.

fo. 115b. **Messages to the Abbot of St. Marys and to the Recorder.**

18 October, 1494. *Present*—Michael White, Mayor, 6 Aldermen, 13 of the xxiv.

Determined that Maisters Nicholas Loncaster, Thomas Gray, Aldermen, John Stokdale and John Ellwald, of the xxiiij, shall in the names of my lord Maire and his Bredren go to my lord Thabbet of Sainte Mary Abbay and gif hym an awnswer to his mocon as tuching the Vicar leis, and shewe hym how the Maire and his Breder be of gude mynde to the mocon and have moconed the Comons acordyng to his desire and as yit thai er not tharunto agreeable, howbeit if it wuld pleas his lordship to desire the Vicars for a longer day thai trust to bryng the said Comons to better mynd as in accomplysshing his resonable desire.

Agreed that a lettre shalbe sent to Maister Recorder to attend apou the Kyngs grace and his Councell so that the Vicars of the Bedridyn take none avauntage ayanst Maire and Commonaltie of this Citie be non surmyse be the said Vicars to the said Kyng and his Council maid to such tyme as suche persons as be named for to aunswer for the Citie come to London and ther he to gif to thame his gude Councell and assistance concernynge the same.

fo. 117b. **The Searchers of the Weavers defy the Mayor and Council.**

3 November 10 Henry VII (1494).

Mem. that as the Maiour of the Citie of York, his brethern Aldermen and the Comon Counseill of the same advertised the Alderman of the wevers of York tabyde and obey suche ordinauncs and direccions as the said Maiour, Aldermen and Comon Counsaile were aggreed upon as touchyn a certain travers whiche lately depended betwix thaym and the vicars of the Mynster of York, wherupon the said Alderman of the wevers refused so to do answeyng the said Maiour if that he and his brethren and the Comon Counsaile

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wold not tak his part and other of his opynyon thay shuld have as good a maister to maynteyn theym as the said Maiour or his Brethren within the said Citie or any other from Trent to Scotland except my lord of Surrey.

Item on Symond daie and Jude¹ last past wher as the said Maiour and his Brethern with the Comon Counsaile assembled togedder in the Comon Hall at York to advertyse such sersours as appered afore theym at that tyme to be confourmable unto thayr mynds, oon of the said sersours toke apou hyme to spek in the plurell nombre sayng, we woll not be aggreable unto yow in that behalve, but as for the mater dependyng betwixe us and the vicars we woll leefe it as we found it.

Item, the said Maiour and his Brethern seing the said sersours in this wilfull opynyon comaunded the Comon Hall dore by an officer to be shot to thentent to have advertised theym unto gud rule; that notwithstanding the said wilfull persones sersours forcibly put the said officer from the Comon Hall dore and opyned the same and so departed using unsitting langage.

Item the said sersours after they departed furth of the Comen Hall assembled in the streite and some of theyme said thes words, if that the forsaid Maiour prisonned any of theym that they shuld breke the prison over thair hedes and take theym oute.

fo. 118.

Words of Sir James Danby.

28 October 10 Henry VII (1494).

John Sponer, one of the Maier sergiants come tofore the said presence and ther shewed how that as in the mornyng he was goyng by the Maiers comaundement to warne the sersours, and as he was at the house of one John Willouse, baker, dwellyng at the signe of the Swane in Conystret the said Willouse desired the said John Sponer to come in and he answerd and said he myght not tary, and then Willouse said ther was a gentilman that wold speke with hym and so he come in and ther he saw Sir James Danby, knyght, and his servaunts attendyng opon hym at his table, and after his duete don unto hym the said Sir James askyd hym what tydyngs and he said non; this, said Sir James, ther is a man taken with myche wryttyng; and the said John said he herd say so and the said Sir James said I pray God that he hurt no man in this countye with his wrytyng and one of his awn servaunts answerd and said—he that is a trewe man to the Kyng ned not dred hym; and then the said Sir James asked the said John Sponer, howe do ye with the vicars, and he answerd and said, Sir, they sewe and my maisters of the Citie will answer hem, and then the said Sir James said—John Sponer tell thy Maisters that the vicars part shalbe my part and tell theym I will sewe theym and therfor like as they purvey for the vicars let theym provyd for me wheras I

¹ St. Simon and St. Jude's Day; 28 October.

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understand ye have made an ordinaunce that no man shall dwell on my ground in the Citie and if I met with any of the Citie without I shall acquyte theym and if any tenaunt of myn be so hardy to giff any mony agayn the vicars he shuld never hold any land of me ne dwell on my ground.

Al whiche sayngs was shewed to the said John Willouse and he by his othe affirmed the same to be spoken and shewed by the said Sir James in maner and forme tofore said.

fo. 118b. **The Earl of Surrey and the defiance of Civic Authority.**

3 November 10 Henry VII (1494). *Present*—Michael White, Mayor, 6 of the xij, 8 of the xxiv.

A lettre from the right noble lord Therle of Surrey was opynly rede and after it was agreed that my lord Maier shuld singularly examyne the serssours of every craft if they knewe or understod who it was that said on Seynt Symon day and Jude last past that if the Maier and his Brethern set any of the Comons in prison they shuld breke it and take hym out maugre theyr heds, with myche other unsyttyng langage as it apperyth in a cedula enclosed in a lettre mysyve from the right noble lord Therle of Surrey, which lettre and cedula was opynly redd tofore the said presence.

fo. 118b. **Those who defiled Civic Authority sent to Prison.**

11 November 10 Henry VII (1494). *Present*—Michael White, Mayor, 4 Aldermen, 10 of the xxiv.

One Robert Barbour, one of the serssours of the wevers for that he on the fest of Seynt Symon and Jude last past when my lord Mayer had assembled the serssours for the matier of traverse bytwix this Citie and the vicars and had comaunded to shet the Comon Hall dore the said Robert same unto the officer kepyng the said dore and bad hym opyn it sayng the Mayre shall not kep us in prison here; for whiche his mysbyhavyng (*fo. 119*) it was agreed that the said Robert shuld go to prison ther to remayn unto the tyme they understod forther my lord of Surrey pleasour and mynd in that behalf.

Item John Thornton, curriour, for that said when the serssours on Symon day and Jude wer advertised to be agreable to suche mocion as Thabbot and Maister Chomley had meved betwix the Citie and the vicars of the Mynstre answerd and said, we wilnot be agreable therto for we woll leve it as we found it, for which sayng he shal go to prison *ut supra*.

fo. 119. **Damage to Property of the Minster Vicars.**

19 November 10 Henry VII (1494). *Present*—Michael White, Mayor, 12 Aldermen, 19 of the xxiv.

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Assembled in the Counseill Chambre apon Ousebrigge for to inquire for the pullyng down of the heggez of the vicars lees and part of the teilehouse ther; fyrst it was determyned that every man of the said presence shall singulery after theyr othez maid apon the evangelists shall singulery be examyned if they or any of theym wer ther present, witting or unwitting, or knowyng any other person that dede it sithen or before, and so ordinatly they maid theyr othez that they never herd any ne knewe therof to it was don ne as yet knoweth.

And after that one Nicholas Denton, teilmaker at the said teilhouse, was sent for and come personaly and after his othe maid on the holy evangelists shewed that he never knewe ne was willyng ne consentyng ther to, so help hym God.

(fo. 119b) Item Robert Tebbe, milner, saith that on sonday at morn last past he sawe two pretez of the Bedern whose names he knoweth not and one Watkyn, theyr servaunt, and an other servaunt of theyrs whose name he knoweth not chassyng and with staffs strikyng shep furth of the vicars lees, emong whose shep, one of John Clerks, bucher, the said sonday was found dede and slayn.

At whiche day tofore my lord Maier, George Kyrk, Alderman, and the Chamberleyns and other officers Laurence Herryson, South chaunter (*sic*) of the Cathedrall Church of York ther and then shewed that one Robert Clerk, carpenter, was present at the brekyng down of the teilehouse and heggs of the vicars lees and couth shewe all suche persons as wer ther; and after whiche shewyng my lord Maier asked the said Sir Laurence why they maid up the heggs and closed the vicar lees and chassed out the catell therin, saying, had ye not so don I trust we shuld have had a gud end therin. Whereunto the said Sir Laurence answerd and said we maid not up the heggez to we wer comaunded. And my lord Maier asked hym who comaunded theym and the said Sir Laurence said—my lord Abbot and my lord Deane; and my lord Maier said—I trust they wold not gif you no suche comaundement.

fo. 120.

21 November 10 Henry VII (1494). *Present*—Michael White, Mayor, 5 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 16 of the xxiv.

One Robert Clerk, carpenter, come personally and ther after his othe maid apon the holy Evangelists confessed that he and one John Chattewoud, servaunt to Thos Tirrell, wever, on sonday at nyght last past about vj of the cloke at after none by the comaundement of Thos Tirell went unto the vicars lees and ther pulled up ij posts that the yate ther hang on and theym cast away; and also that the said John Chalke shewed hym on wednesday last past that he was at the pullyng down of the teilhouse and heggs of the vicars lees.

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John Chalke deposed that he and William Friston, wever, and othre to the nombre of lx persons, whose names he knaweth not, wer opon monday at nyght betwix vij and viij of the cloke wer present at pullyng doun of the said teilehouse and heggs and also saith that he went thydder by comaundement of Thomas Tirrell, his maister; also he saith that hymself was the first man that entred the teilehouse.

Thomas Tirell was examined on 22 November and although he confessed to having been present denied that he had any hand in it.

fo. 121b.

Privy Seal to the Mayor and others.

Letter from the King.

To Michell Whytte, Maier of our Citie of Yorke, George Smyth, al Barbour and John Armerede, serjeaunts of the same. For a certain grete riotts and mysgouvernaunce late by you comitted and don within our Countie of York contrarie to our lawez and peax, as we be enfourmed, we wol and straitly charge you and every of you that all excuses and delaies set aparte ye be and personnally appere before us and our Counsaill within viij daies next aftir the sight of thies our lettres, whersoever we shalbe in this Royaume to answer unto the said riotts and suche other things as at your comyng shalbe objected and laid ayenst you. Not failling herof upon peyne every of you of c^{li} and as ye wol answer unto us at your perills. Yeven undir our prive seal at our palois of Westminster the vij day of Novembre.

fo. 122.

Advice of the Abbot of St. Marys to be sought.

27 November 10 Henry VII (1494). *Present*—Michael White, Mayor, 9 Aldermen, 18 of the xxiv.

A private seale to my lord Mayer and ij of comen servaunts and other diverse sealez to other diverse cociticins of this Citie was opynly rede. It was determyned that Maister Sir Ric. York, Nicholas Lancaster, John Gilliot, George Kyrk, Alderman, William Barker, merchaunt and John Elwald of the xxiiij shuld go unto my lord of Seynt Mary Abbey and to meve his lordship as touchyng the said private seales and to shewe hym they ar sewed undre the mocion of treate of his lordship and maister Chomley, wherin to pray of his good avice to meve hym by his grete wisdom, and Maister Chomley to provide for discharge of the said privat seales and to writ to my lord of Surrey besechyng hym to writ unto the Kyngs highnesse and to certifie his grace of the demeanour of the Maier and of his Brether and Comon Counseill and of all other to whome the said prive sealez ar direct.

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fo. 123b.

Letter to the Mayor from the Earl of Surrey.

1 December 10 Henry VII (1494).

Right worshipfull and right hartely byloved frend I comaunde me unto you; and wher I understande by my lorde Abbot of Seynt Mary Abbey and my lord Dean of York that ye as yesterday hath had a comunicacion with theym touchyng the matier that ye with other ar sent fore by pryvy seale to appere above, the whiche I conceyve is at the suyte of a prebendary called Maister Nixe and not at the sewte of the vicars of the Mynster, and that ye also by the advice of your Brethern shall have a comunicacion in the matier dependeng betwixt you, your said Brethern and Comons of the Citie of York on the oon partie, and the forsaid vicars on the other partie, thorowe the whiche ye trust it shall drawe to some goode conclusion, so that I wold take upon me to wrytt unto the Kyngs grace of your excuse nowe at this tyme, the whiche I shall take upon me to do and certifie his grace that I have taken suertie upon you to appere above by the viijth daie of hillary terme next comyng; so that ye with other that ar sent by prive seales wolbe bounden unto me by obligacions in certain somes byfore my lord Abbot of Seynt Mary Abbey to kepe the same daie, and ye sending me knowledge therupon than I shall incontynent upon (fo. 124) the same send furth my said wryttyng. Howe be it I trust in the meane season some good waye in the premisses shalbe taken that ye shall not nede to appere above, and for that this is bot a smalle matier for me to cum over for to York therfor I wold ye shuld seale the forsaid obligacons before my lord Abbot and delivere theym unto hym in my name. And our Lord preserve you. Written in the castle of Shirrefhoton the last day of Novembre.

Your lovyng frend. Thomas Surrey.

fo. 125.

Decisions of the Commons.

19 December 10 Henry VII (1494). *Present*—Michael White, Mayor, The Recorder, 8 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 16 of the xxiv.

¹Assembled in the Counseill Chambre within the Comon Hall and many of the sersours and gret substaunce of the Comons of the Citie beyng in the Comon Hall, it was efftsonez meved to the Comons if they wold be agreable to such direcons and monicions as lately wer shewed unto theym as touchyng the comon in the Vicars lees. After whiche shewyng and mocons the said Comons and sersours asked a respite of the answer and by licence of the Maier and Comon Counseill departed unto the Freers Austyns and ther after comunicacon had emongest theym by deliberacion gaff theyr answer in writtyng in maner and forme ensuyng. First, all we the Comons of this pore Citie, the Kyngs trew subgiетts and

¹ On 9 Dec. the wardens were asked to ascertain the opinion of the commonaltie in their wards about the proposals made by the Abbot of St. Marys and Richard Chomley.

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your poure servaunts and cociticins, in our most lowly wise shewe unto our lord the Maier, our wurshipfull maisters Thaldermen and Comon Counseill of the same, that we by an hole assent and consent as fere as in us is ar greed and determyned that as touchyng the comon in the Vicars lees we will never graunt, sell ne giff it ne take any pension therfor; bot as the Kyng, our most drad liege lord, and his most noble counseill commaundeth us to be ordered in that byhalfe we are content and pleased, and we humbly submyt and pit us in his grace and pleasour both our bodiez and goods. And as touchyng our comon on the Halfeld, Tangfeld and all other placez and grounds wherin we ar accustomed to have comon we ar determyned and agreed to giff our mony and goods to defenders in the same as may be to the Kyngs pleasour accordyng unto his lawez. And wher as the Kyngs highnes is informed that we of late shuld comytt and do many gret and haynous riotts agaynst our lord the Maier, our Maisters his Brether, Comon Counseillours and the comon officers and sergiaunts contrary (*fo.* 125b) our allegi-
aunce unto our liege lord the Kyng and our dute and othez maid unto the said Maier we humbly beseche our said lord the Maier, our maisters his Brether and Comon Counseillours, and in especiall you, Maister Chomley, that as well our said lord the Maier as we your said besechers may in all goodly hast come tofore the Kyngs highnes and the lords of his most noble Counseill and ther to declare us as ryght requyreth and as we have deserved in that byhalf.

And also that our said lord the Maier my be accompanyd in his goyng up unto the Kyngs grace with Maister Recorder, two of his Brether and two of the xxiiij. And if it so may please you our maisters of the Comon Counseill as in our opynyons Maister Recorder, William White, George Kyrk, Aldermen and John Elwald and John Stokdale of the xxiiij ar most expedient and beneficiall for the comon well. And after your mynds knawen and shewed unto us in the premissez we shall name suche other persons of the Comons as we thynk most beneficiall for us and the comon well to attend upon our said lord the Maier and his Brether.

After which bill and request rede and shewed to my lord Maier and the presence tofore said, they singulery examyned, determyned and agreed that Maister Recorder, William Whyte George Kyrk, Aldermen, John Elwald and John Stokdale of the xxiiij shuld accompany the Maier in his goyng up unto the Kyngs grace.

fo. 126b. **The Expenses of those summoned before the King
to be borne by the Citie.**

15 January 10 Henry VII (1494-5). *Present*—Michael White, Mayor, 9 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 14 of the xxiv.

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It was meved as touchyng the Kyngs diverse lettrez of privat sealez direct unto my lord Maier and diverse other cociticins for many and gret riots and mysgovernmentes by theym severally don and comyt to appere afor the Kyngs Highnes and the lords of his most noble Counseill in the utas¹ of seynt Hillary next ensuyng; and as it is supposed for suche maters as concernyth the comon well of this Citie and enspecall for comon of pasture in the Tang feld and Vicars lees; wherfor it was determyned that at suche tyme as my lord Maier cometh tofore the Kyngs Highnes if the surmyse wherupon the privat sealez ar direct furth concerns the comon mater and well of this Citie, it is agreed that al suche costs as shall hapyn to be made and expended shalbe borne at the comon cost and charge of this Citie, as wel in his goyng up as abydyng ther of my said lord Maier and his Brether and al suche other as ar assigned to go in his company and attend upon theym.

fo. 128b. **The Kings speech to the Mayor and others from York.**

The sayng and commandement of the most hygh and myghty christen prince, King Henry the vijth to George Kyrk, Maier of the Citie of York, William Whyt, Michell Whyte, John Elwald and John Stokdale and other, citicins of the said Citie, and comaunded by his own mousse² at Grenewyche in the presence of the right honourable lord Thomas, Erle of Surrey and many other lords the xvth day of februarye the xth yere of his most prosperous reigne.

Maister Maiour, trew it is that my Cytie of York is one of the most auncients, honourable Cities within this my Royalme and hath beyn in gret honors, riches and prosperites in tyme past, and that appereth by diverse cases sewrly this prosperite and welth growed by the wyse and polytik ordre and rewle of the Maier, his Brethern and ther Counseill for the tyme rewlyng, and when this Citie thus florished in prosperite the Maier for the tyme and his brethern by advice of the said counseill executed the lawez within the said Citie and libertes of the same according to the auncient customes and lawez of the said Citie without favour or dred of any person. Sirs, ye be loth, I wot well, that other shuld rewle within your fraunchese, whiche hath beyn graunted you of old tyme, and I may not see the Citie go in utter ruyne and dekaye in defaute of you that shuld rewle for rather of necessite I most and woll put in other rewlers that woll rewle and govern the Citie accordyng to my lawez. Sirs, I knowe non havynng governaunce and rewle of any citie or place within my royalme may more boldly rewle or governe then ye may do that my Citie of York, for within your fraunches and libertiez ye may rewle accordyng to my lawez as and I were ther my nawn person and so I will ye do;

¹ Utas; the Octave of any feast.

² Mousse; mouth.

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and if it requyre ther be cause to aske help ye may shewe the mater and cause to my lord of Surrey and be sewre of his assistence. Wherfor, Maister Mayer, I comaund and straitly charge you at your perell that ye duryng your tyme se good demeanour and peace be keped within my Citie (*fo.* 129) ther and that ye mynister and execut my lawez ther rightously accordyng to the auncien customes of the said Citie, not lettyng for any person what so ever he be, for savyng that I wold not that the cause wer yeffen I wold see you execut my lawez and wyt who wold or durst attempe to the contrarye, for he that so dyd shuld be sewrly punyshed that other shuld take ensample and be adrad so eftesones to do. Sir, ye that be rewler of my Citie ther ordre it wiscely, poliktikly and accordyng to due justice to the encrece and prosperite of my said Citie, and ye so doyng shalbe sewre to content my citicins and inhabitaunts ther in there reasonable desires at all tymes.

Which bill was subscribed with my lord of Surrey hands.

Thomas Surrey.

fo. 130b.

The Citys quarrell with the Minster.

27 March 10 Henry VII (1495). *Present*—George Kirk, Mayor, 10 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 17 of the xxiv.

Determynd and enact that for a tyme and season to it be other wise considered that every Alderman, Sheriffs or ilkon of the xxiiij for divers consideracions shall forbere of goyng to the sermons and processions at the Mynster, and that ilkon of theyme for like consideracons shall forbere of goyng to dyner at the place or mancions of any of the said residenciare of the said Mynster, which act was red to Sir Ric. York and he refused and denyed to agre to it.

fo. 131b.

Demands of the millers refused.

30 March 10 Henry VII (1495). *Present*—George Kirk, Mayor, 12 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 16 of the xxiv.

The milners put in a bill wherin they desired that they myght have vj^d for gryndyng of a quarter of whete, rie, barly, peese, beens and other hard corne and 1^d ob. for gryndyng of a quarter malt; whiche bill was opynly rede tofore the said presence and by on voice and assent denyed. And then it was ennacted and establisched that every milner whiche holdeth or occupieth any milne, wynd mylne, water mylne or horse mylne within this Citie, suburbez and precincts of the same, as wel the Castell mylnez as other, from hensfurth grynd a quarter whete, ry, barly, peese, beens for iiij^d a quarter; and a quarter malt for j^d. And if any mylner take any more then is toforsaid to forfett and paye at every tyme he doth the contrarye to this ordinaunce in any poynt or article therof xij^d.

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fo. 132. **The Earl of Surrey offers to mediate between the
City and the Minster.**

2 April 10 Henry VII (1495). *Present*—George Kirk, Mayor, 6 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 15 of the xxiv.

Assembled in the Comon Hall and most party of the serssours of every craft and occupacion within this (Citie), in the name of the hole body of the Comons of the same it was shewed by the mouth of my lord Maier howe that the right prepotent and noble lord Therl of Surrey the day tofore meved hym and his Brether and Comon Counseill that the matier of travers dependyng betwix the Citie and the vicars of the Bedern myght be put unto his lordship, sayng he wald endeavour hym to make an indeferent end in the said mater. After whiche mocion my lord Maier aske respyte of the said Erle that he myght speke with his Brether and Comon Counseill and also the Comons and he shuld send his lordshyp an answer as hastely as he myght. After whiche shewyng the serssours went togidder and then they gaff answere that they wold be agreable to put the said matier unto the said right noble lord and Erle of Surrey and my lord Maier to be with hym at tyme of comunicacon in the said matier. And then my lord Maier and Comon Counseill went in to the counseill chambre and ther it was determyned and agreed that William Whyte, Alderman, John Stokdale of the xxiiij, the Comon Clerk and the Maiers esquier at the mayce shuld be sent unto the said lord and erle with an answer in writtyng as after ensuyth.¹

fo. 135. **The Millers fined. The Creed Play. The Paternoster
Play. Parish Assessors.**

12 May 10 Henry VII (1495). *Present*—George Kirk, Mayor, 11 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 10 of the xxiv.

Agreid that for so mych as John Herryson, John Anderson, Thomas Burton, and Richard Skyrrow, seirchours of the craft of mylners in the name of ther craft have confessed to fore the said presence that thay wer all agreid that thai wold not leid none maner corn of the citicins to the mylnez to be grund nor home agayne by ther horses, to the grete hurt of the Kings pepill and agaynst ther ordinaunce, for the which offence the said seirchours have sumyte thayme tofor the said presence and humbly besoght the said Maire and presence to be ther gude lord and maisters, and than and ther in the name of ther craft for that offence promyted to abyde the awarde and jugement of the said Maire and presence; wheruppon by the said presence it was agreid that the said seirchours and craft for the said offence shall pay to the use of the

¹ A letter is sent to the Earl of Surrey by the Mayor and Council accepting his offer to be mediator. The Earl answered that he would undertake to mediate and would call in the assistance of the Abbot of St. Marys, one of the Kings Council. In the meantime he commanded the Mayor and Council "to go to the Mynster and kep theyr procession ther."

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Commonaltie v marcas of money. Item, it was agreid that the master and kepers of Corpus Christi gilde shall cause the Crede play to be plaid this yere, that is to say, the furst bone¹ to be cryed on Whisson monday, the next at Maudleyn day, and the play on Seynt Bartylmew evyn, accordyng to the warnyng gyfyn to the said maister be the Maire on Philip day and Jacob, or els to pay xv^{li} to the Chambre

Item it is agreid everychon of Thaldermen or xxiiij in ther ward or parishing shall apoynte iiij of the most discrete persones yn ther parich to asses the parte of the subsedye or to thayme per-tenyng for such costs as lately wer maid at London for the defence of citizins of this Citie in the matier of the varyens betwix tham and Sir James Danby, knyght, and the Vicars of the Bedyren. And if the said iiij persons in every parish soo elect, refuse and wilnot perfourme the same than my lord Maire to discharge tham and every of thame of ther fraunches; and over that to punyssh all other that be disobedient and wilnot doo ther dewtyes.

Item it is agreid that the master and bredren of the gild of Seinte Anthonyes, for so much as thay may not this yere convenyently bryng furth the play called the Pater Noster play² accordyng to the wurship of this Citie, therfor thei shall pay to the use of the Commonaltie . . . (blank) and to prepar thame therfor ayanst the next yere.

fo. 135b.

Millers sent to prison.

22 May 10 Henry VII (1496). *Present*—George Kirk, Mayor, W. Fairfax, Recorder, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 14 of the xxiv.

Thomas Burton, John Herrison, John Anderson, and Thomas Roger, milners, beeng under ward in the Maier's kydcott for non payment of v markes whiche they had graunted and knowlegged to pay, as appereth the xij day of May, wer sent for; it was demaunded of theym if they wald content and pay suche some of money as they had graunted to pay, and over that if they wold abyde the rewle and ordour of my lord Maier and Comon Counseill of, in and opon al such mysbyhavyngs as they had done and comytt, and if they so wold, then to go home unto theyr fermholds to grynd and lede every inhabitant and citicins corne, as have done to fore tyme; wherunto they answerd that they wold grynd as they have don aforetyme, bot as to payment of any some of money they wold not agre therto; and then it was determyned by the seid presence that they shuld be comyt to the Shireffs ward, ther to remayne unto tyme they wold frely pay the said some of money, and submytt theym unto my lord Maier and Comon Counseill. And after

¹ Bone, old form of bane; proclamation.

² Paternoster play. The Paternoster Guild of York in the beginning of the 15th century merged in the new Guild of St. Antony; this accounts for the latter having the Paternoster play in its possession.

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that, John Long, Robert Bull, John Floure and Rob. Freer, milners, beyng in ward for the same wer sent for and come to fore the said presence and in like forme it was demaunded theym if they wold agree to the premisez, wherunto they answerd they wold be agreable like as Th. Burton and thother toforsaid had answerd, and they in like wise wer comyt unto the Shireffs ward. And then it was determyned that my lord Maier this day at afternone shall make serche (*fo.* 136) for theyr servaunts and every other milner that is out of prison and if they will not grynd and led as they aught to do then to sett theym in the pillory.

fo. 136.**Various decisions and regulations.**

23 May 10 Henry VII (1495). *Present*—George Kirk, mayor, 6 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 10 of the xxiv.

At whiche day the milners to fore named came personally to fore this presence and in the name of the hole craft lowly submyt theym unto my lord Maier and Comon Counseill humbly besechyng theym to forgiff theym al suche defaults, offences and mysbyhavyngs as they have don.

Item, it was ennacted and establisched fermly hereafter to be observed, that every person comyng to this Citie and will be enfraunchesed and inhabited and dwell upon the comon lifflod¹ of what craft, occupacion or mysterie so he be, that as long as they dwell and inhabite upon the said comon lifflod they to pay non upset² nather to the chambre ne craft, occupacion or mysterie; and if they or he depart of the comon lifflod then he or they to pay theyr upsett unto theyr crafft, occupacion or mysterie and the chambre accordyng to theyr ordinaunce and as hath been used afore this tyme. And this ordinaunce to endure and conteneue as long as my lord Maier and his Brether and Comon Counseyll semeth necessary.

It is agreed that Maister Recorder on the Trenite terme next ensuyng shall ride up to London to answer to such maters as shalbe object agayn theym, and what costs as he maks and laieth down ther for this Citie to be repaied of the same at his comyng home.

(*fo.* 136b). It was enact that if any citicine or inhabitaunt in Ousegate frome hensfurth set any erth potts, terre barrells, pyke, dische with frute, without the gutters tofore theyr shopps, or hyng any ropes or helters, gyrthwebbe or any other thyngs without ther wyndowes to the nusaunce of theyr nebouris or the Kyngs people passyng that way, they to forfet at every tyme al the said potts, barels, or any other thyng as is abovesaid. And if any man or woman set any erth potts to sell, upon the payment at any day in tyme of market ther they to forfet and lose al the said potts. And over that ichon above seid doyng contrary to this ordinaunce

¹ For lifflod see Vol. I, p. 22n.

² For upset, see Vol. I, p. 6n.

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or any article therof to make fyne after the Maiers will and discreccion, except that it be lefull to al suche as sells pykez or other fresche water fysche or other fysch watered to set theyr veselles with the said fysche, duryng the market and utteraunce¹ of the same, the said Act not withstandyng.

Item it was aggreed that the constable in every parysche within this Citie and iiij of the most discret persons of the same parysche shall go to every singuler parochan in theyr parische and ask and demaund of theyme what they of theyr awne mynd and fre will gif toward the charge and costs lately maid at London and thereafter to bryng a bill unto my lord Maier of every person what they graunt to geff.

Item, the same day the maister of Corpus Christi gild and the kepers graunted to play the Crede play this yere and every tent yere successively as aperith by a writtyng remanyng with the said maister and kepers, the tenour wherof ensuyth on the next syde folowing and entiled in the booke of the Cred play.²

fo. 137.

Transfer of Church Income.

12 September 11 Henry VII (1495). *Present*—George Kirk, Mayor, 4 of the xij, 1 Sheriff, 8 of the xxiv.

Item my lord Maier meved and shewed that wher was certayn liflod belongyng to a chauntrie in Seynt Nicholas Kyrk³ in Mekilgate, which lieth in decaye and the chauntrie unservyd, desiryng the said prescence that they wold be of good will and put theyr mynds that the said liflod myght be laid unto a chauntrie prest of Seynt Katerine in Seynt Mary Kyrk older; after which shewyng the said prescence answerd and said they wold be aggreable the said liflod shuld be put to the said chauntrie of Seynt Katerine unto tyme they wer otherwise avised.

fo. 138.

Members of Parliament.

Maison Dieu in North Street.

27 Sep. XI Henry VII (1495). *Present*—George Kirk, Mayor, 6 of the xij, 1 Sheriff, 11 of the xxiv, 14 of the xxiv.

The seid prescence elect and chose to be knyghts and burgez for this (Citie) at the Kings high court of parlement the right worshipfull and discret persons, William White and Thomas Day, Aldermen.

Agreid that thalderman of wevers and the sersours of the seid craft in the name and behove of all the wevers and to (*sic*)

¹ Utterance; disposal of goods by sale or barter.

² For an account of the Creed Play see L. Toulmin Smith, *York Mystery Plays*, intro. p. xxx.

³ St. Nicholas Church in Micklegate. This Church adjoined the Priory Church of Holy Trinity. Its tower still remains.

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theyr successours shal have to ferme a house at the west end of All Halowez Kyrk in Northestrete.¹

fo. 139. **Better ale wanted. Butchers put in prison.**

1 October 11 Henry VII (1495). *Present*—George Kirk, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 14 of the xxiv.

Determinyd that every bruer within this Citie and suburb shal from nowe furth pay for every quarter that they brue for bruster fyne i^d accordyng to an auncient ordinaunce maid afore tyme. And also it was agreed that the bruers shal have in comaundement to amend and make better ale and to sel for 1^d ob. a galon and if they wil not amend theyr ale then proclamacion to be maid that it shalbe leffull to every foreyn to come and bryng in good and holsome ale by water and land and to sele at theyr pleaser so that they sel a galon for a peny.

Agreed that the buchers of this Citie for that they had not flesche on the synod day next after pasche² and other diverse tymeze this yere past to serve the Kyngs people and diverse other offenses by theym comyt this yere shal pay unto the Chamberleyns v^{li} to (be) employed to the comon well of this Citie; if they wil not paye the seid v^{li} then they to steke in theyr windowez.³ The whiche v^{li} they utterly refused to pay, and therupon they wer comytt to prison and ther they remayned unto the vigil of Christenmese; and then the reverend fader in God, William the bischop of Carlill wrot unto the Maier and seid presence curtasly dysirying theym that the seid buchers myght be eased out of emprisonment these halydayes, and so at his instaunce they wer eased of emprisonment and after the halydayes the seid reverent fader in God sent in the said v^{li}, after which his curtase send and message xxxiijs iiiij^d was deduct of the said v^{li} and remaunded to the same reverend fader to dispose at his pleaser and will.

fo. 139b. **A new way to pay debts.**

12 October 11 Henry VII (1495). *Present*—George Kirk, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 11 of the xxiv.

My lord Maier shewed a bill of lxij^{li} xiiij^s expended at London hillary terme last past by my lord Maier, his Brether and other attendyng opon theym to the nombre of xxxiiij persons. After whiche shewyng it was mencioned emong the said presence that my lord Maier shuld send for al suche as ar in the ellecion of Chamberleyns or Shireffs and ar not personable thought ne able in havour to bere the said officez and chargez, and after his discrecon they to make fyne with hym for discharge of the seid officez ather for

¹ In the margin this house is referred to as North strete Masyndewe.

² Synod day next after pasch; that day in Easter week when the Parish Synod met.

³ Steke in theyr windowez, i.e., close up their shutters.

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respit of yerez or for ever. And if the said fynes wold not amount to the some of lxii^{li} xiiij^s above seid then one half therof to be payd by the Chamberleyens that nowe ar and the other half by the Chamberleyens that shalbe the next yere ensuyng. The whiche mocion afterward the last day of Decembre was thought as void and of non effect, and then it was determyned that the Chamberleyens nowe beyng shall paye the seid lxij^{li} xiiij^s, and also vj^{li} xv^s xj^d unto Th. Bankhouse, drapour, for clothyng whiche was takyn of hym for my said lord Maier and the other xxxiiij persons at theyr goyng up to London.

fo. 140.

Ordinances of the Porters.

19 November 11 Henry VII (1495). *Present*—George Kirk, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 10 of the xxiv.

It was shewed that the porters wil not bere theyr byrdens unto placez and stretez of auncient tyme accustomed and for theyr wages and hires as appereth in the ordinaunce of porters in the registre with the crucifixe the xxxviiijth lefe in the ij^d nombre which was openly rede in the said presence, that the said porters shalbe punnysched for theyre said mysdoynge after the discrecon of my said lord Maier. At whiche tyme the said porters came and shewed that the above said ordinaunce was so sore and chargeable unto they(m) that they myght not observe it and humbly besoght the said presence of a remedy and mynischment of the same, at whiche theyr humble prayer the said presence mynisched the said ordinaunce in maner and fourme ensuyng.

That from nowe furth ther shalbe xvj porters and no mo, of whiche xvj ij shalbe principall overseers that every porter observe and kepe theyr ordinaunce in every poynt and article apou the payne theropon lymyted.

(fo. 140b), That the porters of this Citie that nowe ar or for the tyme shalbe shall bere from the water of Use unto Trenite Kirk in Kyngs garth, Coliergate, Fossegate to the chapell upon Fosse brigg, Bucchers market skyre, Patrike pole, Thuresday market, Davigate, Pettergate unto the North mynster yate, Stayngate, Blakestrete, Conystrete, Over Ousgate, Seynt Gregory Kyrk, Mekilgate, Seynt Martyn in the same, our lady Kyrk on Byschophill, Seynt Mary Kyrk elder and all other placez betwix the seyd water and the strets above seyd iiij byrdens for a peny. And that they shall bere from the said water past the said stretts and placez toward the iiij barres, that is to saye, to Bothome barre, Monk barre, Layrthorp posterne, Walmegate, Fischergate and Mekyllyth barre iiij byrthens for a peny.

Item, it is ordeyned that the said porters to bere alsmany byrthens of turffes for a peny to the placez and stretts above-seyd and that they bere iiij score gret turffes for a byrthen and a hundreth small turffes for a byrthen.

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And al other statuts and ordinaunces concernyng the said porters except the ordinaunce the R. crucifixe the xxxviij leffe the ij^d nombre to stand in their strengh and effect.

fo. 141. **End of the quarrel with the Vicars of the Minster.**

28 September 11 Henry VII (1495). *Present*—George Kirk, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 18 of the xxiv.

A dede of reles of comon of pasture in the Vicars leez sealed with the comon seale and an obligacion of a c^{ll} wherin the Maier and Commonaltie ar bound to the keper of the Vicars of the Bedern and sealed with the comon seale wer redd tofore the said presence.

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fo. 1b. **A Miller sent to prison. Fuslon of two chantries.**

2 March 11 Henry VII (1495-6).¹ *Present*—Robert Johnson, Mayor, 8 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 13 of the xxiv.

A bill concernyng untrewe dealyng of Thomas Burton and John Andrew, milners, was opynly rede to fore the said presence; and after that John Herryson, milner, was sent fore and come personaly, and for his unsittyng langage and mysbyhavyng ayenst my lord Maier, that late was, in the Comon Hall, as well on the day of elleccion of the Mayer as on the day that my lord Maier toke his othe, thurgh which unsittyng langage and mysbyhavour with other adherents he was likely to have maid a gret and inconvenient discord at the assemble in the said Hall. For the same he was comytt unto the Shireffs ward.

Determined that a chauntre of Saynt Nicholas and Saynt Martyn in Trenite Kyrk in Gotheromgate beyng in the Maier and Comonaltie gifft, and also an other chauntre of our lady in the same Kyrke in the parysche gifft shall from nowe furth be unyonnd and adjoynd togedder, and hereafter to be in the Maiers and Comonaltie gifft at the fyrst tyme and at the parochaynes gifft at the second tyme.

fo. 2. **Coming Conference with the Easterlings.
Commercial Treaty with the Archduke of Austria.**

23 March 11 Henry VII (1496). *Present*—Robert Johnson, Mayor, 5 Aldermen, 1 Sheriff, 10 of the xxiv.

By the Kyng.

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you well, and for asmyche as there (is) a diette appointed to be kept in brieff tyme at Andewarp betwix us and the Steds of Thesterlings for the reformaccion of certain greves and attemptats doon against the liege and amitie had and of long tyme contynued betwix this our Royaume and

¹ A five month gap.

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them, we therfor wol and desire you to warne the merchauntez of our Citie of York of the said diete to thentent that they put theyr grevez, if any be, in wryting and deliver theym unto our ambassadours, whiche we shall send thider for the same cause; and if ye think it necessary and expedient that any merchaunt of our said Citie shall goo unto the said diette for the more declaracion of the said greves we be content that they so doo in the companye of our said ambassadours soo that they be men of good sadnesse and honour; and where as the last diette holden for this matier in the said parties diverse of our subgiетts declared certain gret wrongs and injuries doon (*fo. 2b*) unto them by the said Esterlings, we wol that if noo redresse were made therin that then they shewe and renne¹ the same ayene unto our said ambassadours for the convenient reformacion to be had in that behalf, and if any personne or personnes reseant amongs you be appointed to goo with our said ambassadours we wol that ye certifie us of his or their names in all hast to thentent that if non suche be assigned we may appoint other to goo with our said ambassatours, and that this be doon with diligence as we trust you. Yeven under our signet at our Manour of Shene the xv day of Marche.

To our trusty and welbeloved the Maier of our Citie of York.

By the Kyng.

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you well, and where as our cousin Tharcheduc of Austriche and duc of Burgoigne hath sent unto us of late the lord Bever and other great personags on his solemne ambasad with his request for to have with us, our reaume and subgiетts bothe amitie, intelligence and entrecourse of merchaundisez, whiche is gretely to our honnour, seing that the rapture and discontynuaunce therof hath not stande by us, and redoundeth also to the weal and prouffit of the liegs on eithre syde; we havynge tendre consideracion to the good and libertie of our subgiетtes have bettred and maid more vaillable to theym the said entrecourse and passed also with those ambassadours both thamitie, intelligence and entrecourse forsaid; and where, over this, the said ambassadours have as well instanced, offred as promysed to bynd divers estats, and divers great tounes of thobeissaunce of our said cousin under their sealez and signe manuells for thinviolable and ferme observyng of that is concluded bitwene us and theyme as the Byschop of Cambray, the prince of Symay, Therl Nassow, the lord Ravesteen, the lord Bevers, the lord Berghes, the lord Egmond, the lord Clibre, the lord Aymeray, the lord Molenbars, the provost of Liege and Sant Denis with the capitain of Brugs, and the Burghmaisters of Gannt, Ipres, Brugs, Dunkerke, Newport, Anvers (*fo. 3*), Berghes, Dordraight, Delve, Leids, Hamsterdam, Midelburgh, Zireches Vere, Malyne, and

¹ Renne: renew.

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Briele. The said ambassaidours desiring gretly for thequalitie and stablenesse of the matier that we shuld do in like wise oblige certain estats and townes of this our reame, we therfor remembring well their reasonable demaunds in that behalve, and that ye also be oon of the townes they mynde to have bounden in this caas wol and desire you that under your comune seale annexed by way of lambewe¹ to suche wryttyng in parchemyn as this berer shall therof deliver unto you the copy ye sende the sam soo sealed unto us by the same berer. Yeven undre our signet at our manour of Shene the xix day of March.

(There follows in Latin a copy of the document requested by the King).

A copy of a lettre to the Kyngs Highnes for answer of the premyses.

Most high and myghty cristen prince and our most redoubted liege Lord in our most humble wise we recomend us to your Highnes; please it the same to knawe that the xxvj day of the moneth of Marche we receyved your most gracioux lettres to us directed, by whiche your grace of your gudnes have giffen us knowleche by your said lettres of the concord and amytie betwix your Highnes and Tharchdue of Austriche and duc of Burgoigne, wherof in our most humbly wiese we thank your Highnes and therof been interly glad, and also accordyng to the contents of your said gracioux lettres we shewed and openly publissed unto the merchaunts of this your Citie, if any of theym had any cause of any wrongez, greffez or injury to thaym or any of theym don by the Esterlings and such compleyntes and greves as they to us have shewed we send to your Highnes in a serule by this your servaunt, herof berer; and forther wher your grace commaunded us by your lettres to ascertain your Highnes if we appoynted any person or persons of gud sadnes and honour, resceaunts emong us to attend upon your most honorable ambassatorz for the declaracion and proves of the said wrongez to be ordered as it shall please your said ambassatours; and as to your high comaundement that this your Citie shulbe bound accordyng to a serule to us delivered from your Highnes we have accomplished your said high commaundement accordyng to our duytes, whiche we send unto your Highnes by this berer.

fo. 4.

Muster of Armed Citizens.

5 April 11 Henry VII (1496). *Present*—Robert Johnson, Mayor, 7 Aldermen, 1 Sheriff, 14 of the xxiv.

Determynd that the Maiers sergiaunts shall warne every constable in his ward that they warne every man within theyr parysche to have theyr harnes redy agayn suche tyme as they

¹ Lambewe: Lambeau; the label of a document to which the seal is attached.

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shalbe commaunded to do the Kyngs and Maier service, and that every man be redy to muster afore theyr wardeyns at a certayn place by the same wardayns to be assigned, and that every constable make a bill of the namez of all and every inhabitant and resceant within every parysce and deliver the said bill unto theyr wardeyns afore friday come a seven nyght for that day shall musters be of every ward severally by hymself.

*fo. 5.***A poor chaplain adds to his income.**

Sir Ric. Flynt, chapleyn, which hath not toward his salary over iiij marks by yere desireth to be maid free of the tyxtwritters crafft and occupaccion so that he may from now furth at his libertie writte, make, bynd, note and florysche bokez and theym sell and put to sale without interupcion or lettyng of the serssors or of any other of the crafts or occupaccionz here after, and he offeres therfor to giffe to the reparaconz of the walles and comon well of this Citie xl^s, and to the said crafts and occupacionz toward theyr chargez xx^s.¹

*fo. 5b.***Wrongful Claim against an Alderman.**

20 July 11 Henry VII (1496). *Present*—Robert Johnson, Mayor, 3 Aldermen, 5 of the xxiv.

It was shewed howe that Thomas Derby, merchaunt, the nyght tofore have with force pulled up a grate on the Payment and that he hadd the same tyme many words of manace and unsittyng langage toward John Gilliot, Alderman; for whiche cause the said Thomas Derby was sent for and come personally tofore the said presence and then the said forcible pulyng up, words of manace, and mysbyhavyng was rehersed unto hym and ther after my lord Maier and the said presence meved hym to submytt hym unto the said John Gilliot and to desire hym to pardon hym of the said words and mysbyhavyng, the whiche to do he ther refused; and then my lord Maier said he must other fynd suertie to bere the peace or eles he shuld go to ward; and he utterly refused and said he wald fynd no suertie. And theropon by thagrement and consent of the said presence he was comyt unto the Maiers kydcott and ther remayned unto tyme he fand suertie.

Be it hade in mynd that wheras Thomas Derby of York, merchaunt, pretendeth and wrongfully clameth two pypes of dryware and other goods and merchaundisez of John Gilliots of York, Alderman, bought at Camfere² the yere of our lord God 1489 by one, John Rowley, then apprentice and servaunt to the said John Gilliot; for (*fo. 6*) declaracion of the trewth in the premyses the said John Rowley, the v day of Decembre the xij yere of Henre VII at the Citie of York come personaly to fore the

¹ This was agreed to.

² Camfere; Campveere in Holland.

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right wurshipfull Sir, Robert Johnson, Maier, and othre cociticing ther present and without compulsion or constreynt of any person of his awn offre and fre will, after his othe maid upon the holy Evangelists, saith and deposeth that the above said two pypes, goods and merchaundisez wer the propre goods and merchaundisez of the said John Gilliot and by the said John Rowley bought at Camfere, pyped and shipped in a ship called John Oyers, marked and signed with the mark of the same John Gilliots, as more playnly by a lettre of his awn writtyng maid to the said John Gilliot, his maister, then beyng Maier of the Citie of York, dated at Camfere the vj day of July the yere abovesaid dothe appere, and that he had no maner of goods or merchaundises of the said Thomas Derbys bot xij pecez lede and iiij pecez carsey, which Thomas Derby had of William Marshall and delivered theym unto the said John Rowley by yond the see, of whiche lede and carsaye he stands accountable unto the said Thomas Derby and after his power shall recompence hyme; and over that the said John Rowley apou his othe saith and deposeth that the said Th. Derby maid a lettre unto hym shewyng in the same that he shuld be of company with the Kyngs enmys for if he come home his Maister, Gilliot, wold trouble hyme, and so he departed and came not home for fere of the same wryttyng; howe be it he saith he never was of company with any agayn the Kyngs Grace.

fo. 6b.

York Sherliff Assaulted.

27 July 11 Henry VII (1496). *Present*—Robert Johnson, Mayor, 6 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 7 of the xxiv.

Ther come personally Thomas Wellez, goldsmyth, Ric. Watson, glover, Sir Robert Mason, chapleyn and John Sclatter, carpenter; and after theyr othez maid wer severaly examyned of an assaut and affray that was maid on Wednesday at nyght last past betwix Rauffe Nevill, esquyer, and Ric. Thornton, one of the Shireffs. First, Thomas Welles saith wher as on Wednesday at viij of the clok at after nowne ther was affray and a variaunce betwix Rauf Nevill and his servaunts on the one partie and Ric. Thornton of the Shireffs on the other partie saith that the said Ric. Thornton and the same Thomas satt togedder on a stall to fore the dore of the said Thos, and Sir Ric. York, knyght, and the said Rauff Nevill come togedder in armez from Skeldergate, and when they come in mydds of the strete that goeth toward Ouse brigge, Sir Ric York said he wald bryng the said Rauff to his loggyng and he said he shuld not for he wold rest hym on the above said stall and then Ric. Thornton and the said Thomas bad hym good evyn and put of theyr bonets, and the said Rauffe furthwith drewe his swerd and then and ther maid assaut upon the said Ric. Thornton, and witt that Sir Ric. York toke the said Rauffe by the arme and asked hym what he wald doo and pulled hym bake.

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Ric. Watson, glover, saith that the said Sir Ric. York and Rauffe come togedder in armez as is above said, and Ric. Thornton and Thos Welles wer sittynge togedder (*fo.* 7) and the said Ric. havynge no wepyn nor harnes bot a dagger. The said Rauff come to the stall wher they satt and the said Ric. Thornton and Th. Welles bad hym good evyn and furthwith the said Rauff drewe his swerd.

fo. 8.**Sixty York men to fight the Scots.**

12 September 12 Henry VII (1496). *Present*—Robert Johnson, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 7 of the xxiv.

A lettre mysive from the right noble lord Therle of Surrey was opynly redd tofore the said presence by whiche he com-aunded my lord to make proclamacon that almaner of men shuld be redy in theyr most defensible aray and resist the Kyng of Scotts, which entendeth hastely to entre this realme. After whiche redyng it was determyned that a captayn and other defensible araied to the nombre of lx persons of this Citie cost shalbe in al goodly hast prepared to attend upon the said lord and earl to resist the said Scotts (*fo.* 8*b*). And thes lx to have wage for x dayes, that is to say, every archer that hase horse and harnes of his awn, xij^d on the day, and if he be horssed of his parysche cost then viij^d on the day, and Mayrez mace berer to be capitayn and he to have ij^s on the day and his servaunt and standerd berer xvij^d on the day, and the capitayne, his servaunt and standerd-berer to be horsed of the chambre cost; and wheras ther ar xj persons over the said lx it (is) agreed that the money for their wagez shalbe levied and employed toward the jaketts and other costs to be maid about the said viage

fo. 14.**New Recorder takes the Oath.****M.P.s Chosen.**

23 December 12 Henry VII (1496). *Present*—Robert Johnson, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 8 of the xxiv.

The right wurshipfull Sir, Brian Palmez, newly elect Recorder of this Citie, come tofore the said presence and toke and maid his othe to the said office accustomed.

The same day the Kyngs writ for burgez to his hyghe court of Parliament to be holden at Westminster the xvj day of Januar next comynge was opynly rede and after that the said presence elect and chose the right wurshipfull Sirs, George Kyrk and John Metcalfe, Aldermen, to be knyghtez and burges for this Citie at the said hye court of Parliament.

fo. 16.**The Sheriffs to accompany the Mayor.**

St Blase Day 3 February 12 Henry VII (1496-7). *Present*—Thomas Gray, Mayor, 7 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 14 of the xxiv.

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It was agreed that the Shireffs for the tyme beyng from hens-furth at every tyme when the Mare sends theym word shall with theyr accompanyes come personaly unto Mayers dwellyng place or other wherof he sends theym knowleg and for the honour of the Citie go and attend apou hym unto Mynster or any other place whether he goys and so accompany hym unto he come home unto his awn mansion.

fo. 18. **Provision of carts for the proposed expedition to
Scotland.**

Henry by the grace of God Kyng etc. to all Maiers, Shireffs, Eschetours, Bailliffs, Constables and to al other our officers, ministers and subgetts hering or seing thes lettres greting; we late you witt that we trusting in the sadnes and wisdomes of our welbeloved servaunts Piers Maynwaring, oon of the yeomen of our crowne, and John Uvedale, takers of our cariags, have auctorezed theme jointly to provid and purvey almaner of cariags from Trent northwards for our great armee that we entend to avaunce for the subduyng of our auncient adversariez the Scotts, wherfor we wol and commaunde you and every of you, to whome it shall aperteigne, to be unto our said servaunts in excuting of this our auctorite and commaundement, obeyng, helpyng and assisting in every behalve as the caas shall require. Yeven under our signet at our Manour of Shene the xxviiij day of Marche the xij yere of our regne.

fo. 18b. **The Soldiers for the Scottish expedition.
Amounts to be levied in York Parishes.**

10 April 12 Henry VII (1497). *Present*—Thomas Gray, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 14 of the xxiv.

Agreed that vj^{xx} persons defensably araied with captayne as well for the Citie as for Aynsty shalbe prepared to take the Kyngs wagez and attend opon the Kyngs Highnes or his lieutenantaunt in his armee royall toward the Scotts.

Determynded that bills of the Kyngs taxe to be leved and gedered within this Citie by vertue of the Kyngs commysion shalbe maid and giffen furth to the collectours of every parysche after the rate and assesment of the taxe in the marialtie of Thomas Scotton.

[The following is a list of the sums paid in by the various parishes].

St Mary Castlegate 5*l* 10^s
 1St Mary at Ouse Bridge 12*l*
 All Saints in Ousegate 7*l*
 St Peter the Little 68^s 4^d

¹ Obviously a mistake for St. Michael at Ousebridge.

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St Martin Coney Street 6*l* 18*s* 8*d*
 St Wilfrid 53*s* 8*d*
 St Elen in Stonegate 5*l*
 St Michael le Belfrey 9*l* 18*s* 8*d*
 St John del pyke 6*l* 12*s*
 Parishes of St Andrew, 15*s*, St Elens on the Walls, 15*s*,
 St Johns in Hungate, 3*s* 6*d*, St Mary in Layerthorpe, 4*s*, St Cuth-
 berts, 4*s*, and All Saints in Peaseholme 3*s* 6*d*. Total 45*s*
 St Maurice 26*s* 8*d*
 St Saviours 40*s*
 St Sampsons 7*l*
 Holy Trinity in Curia Regis 12*l*
 St Crux in Fossgate 12*l*
 St Denys 108*s*
 Parishes of St Margaret, 40*s* 8*d*, St Laurence, 20*s*, St Peter in
 the Willows, 12*s*, St Edward, 7*s*, St Nicholas, 5*s*, St George, 2*s*, St
 Elen, 2*s* 6*d*, All Saints in Fishergate 2*s* 6*d* Total 86*s* 8*d*¹
 St Mary Senior 68*s* and St Clement 20*s*—88*s*
 St Mary Bishophill 26*s* 8*d*
 St Nicholas in Micklegate 84*s* 8*d*
 St Martin in Micklegate 84*s* 5*d*.
 St Gregory 36*s* 11*d*
 St John's Ouse Bridge 8*l* 13*s* 4*d*
 All Saints in North Street 6*l* 10*s*
 Total 136*l* 11*s* 8*d*

fo. 19b.

Letter from the Earl of Surrey.

Mem. that the xvj day of Aprill the xij year of Henry VII
 a lettre misive from the right lord Therle of Surrey with a boxe
 ensealed with sex lettrez of privee sealez wer delivered unto my
 Lord Maier the tenour of whiche lettre ensuyth.

To the right worshipfull and my right hertely belouffed
 frend the Maiour of the Citie of York.

Right wurshipfull and right hartely biloved frend I com-
 aunde me unto you; and wher the Kyngs good Grace hath sent
 down unto me diverse prive sealez for suche persons within the
 Ansty as appered tofore you and me what tyme we sat last to-
 gedders at York, the whiche prive seales I send unto you by this
 bringer, I therfor desire you and nevertheless in the Kings name
 charge you in theaccomplsshing of his most noble mynd and
 pleasour ye cause the forsaid preve sealez to be by yow in nowise
 failed as ye woll answere to the King at your perill; and our Lord
 have you in his saufe gard. Written in the castell of Shireff hoton
 the xvj day of Aprill.

Your lovyng frend Thomas Surrey.

¹ The total of this group of Parishes is wrongly added.

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The whiche lettre and boxe my Lord Maiour rede and opynned in the counceill chambre opon Ouse brigge to fore Sir Richard Yorke, Knyght, and the said sex lettrez of prive seale then and ther delivered unto Miles (Arwayn) and Bartraham Dawson, Shireffs of the Citie of York, chargyng theym in the Kyngs name to delivere the said lettrez of prive seale to the persons comprised in the tailez of the same as herafter ensuyng. Inprimis one to Th. Fayrfaxe, Knyght, Robt Stokez, Thomas Davell, Squyers. Item the ijth to William Neleson of York, merchaunt, Roger Ratcliff and Robt Davy. Item the iijth to Christofer Gilliot, Th. Holgate and Ric. Russell. Item the iiijth to William Middelton of Over Popilton, and Guy Frankleyn of Nether Popilton. Item the vth to Robt (fo. 10) Herryson of Oxton, William Smyth of Colton, Thomas Freman and Thomas Fyscher. Item the vjth to William Thomlynson, William Hoggeson and William Monkton.

fo. 20. **The King orders the Sheriff of the County of York to collect money for the campaign against the Scots.**

11 May 12 Henry VII (1497).

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you well, and doubt not bot that ye have the Act well in remembraunce of our high court of Parliament, late passed for the defence of this our Reame ayenst the Scotts; wherupon by the advyce of the lords spirituall and temporall and of the other of our Counsell we have apponted our Steward of houshold to be on the see with our armee of fyve thousand men the xvj day of this moneth of May and so to drawe to Scotland for the anoyence of the Scotts by water, and land in the same wher and as often as he shall thynk good. We have appointed on the other side by the said advice our Chamberleyn to go with our vaward by land ayenst the said Scotts, and to be in his journey thiderward son therupon; and we to go to after with our hoost and armee riall. Wherfor and in asmoche as the tyme of the setting forward of thies ij our furst armeez be at hand and the money for theyr costs and chargs is not yet cessed nor levied, by reason wherof al this our journey myght have occasion to brek and to take noon effect, that God defend, on lase extreme diligent be had in this caas, we woll and comand you in our estranest wise that in oon of the grettest causes that can touche us and the well of this our Reame ye call incessently upon the justics of our peax within our your baillywike for the cessyng without losse of tyme of the aide and subside within the same and for thassignyng furthwith of the collectours, so that by meane of wise and substanciall collectours the said aid and subside within the same be levied with al sped possible; and be it so ye fynd any of the said justics remyse or necligent in this byhalve, we charge you to certifie us furthwith of theyr names for theyr punnitions to be had accordyng and for theyr excuse in this partie we wol ye shewe

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or do surely to be shewyd unto theym and every of theym this our present writtyng in all the gret hast ye can or may for the briefnese of the tyme and the daungur of the matier so demaunde and requirez (*fo. 20b*) and that ye faille not this to do as it your aforsaid (*sic*) upon the legeaunce ye bere unto us. Yeven under our signet at our Manor of Grenewyche the first day of May.

To our trusty and well belovyd the Sheriff of our Countie of York.

*fo. 21.***An illegal fishing net.****Protection for the Pavement.**

28 April 12 Henry VII (1497). *Present*.—Thomas Gray, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 7 of the xxiv.

It was agreed that a net of the Prior of Saynt Andrewes taken on the comon ground called Saynt Andrewe grene for fyschyng in the water under the Castell mylne, thei to mak fyne for theyr wrong fyschyng and for that the net is unlawfull and not after thassie¹ it to be brent.

The same day it was ennacted and established fermely hereafter to be observed that a proclamacion shalbe maid in the opyn market that every denysen and foreyn that bryngez waynez or carts bound with yren and loden with any maner stuff, except the Kyngs carriage and comez within this Citie upon the Payvement whiche of newe is maid to the gret coste and charge of the Citie shall fro nowfurth pay for every tyme xij^d to the comon well of this Citie; and thei that bryngs wollen on unbound waynes or cartez and without any naylez with any maner stufte to be welcome and to have fre entre and passage.

*fo. 21b.***Care of Bars and Posterns.****A burglary.**

80 men from York and the Ainsty to serve against the Scots

11 May 12 Henry VII (1497). *Present*.—Thomas Gray, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 8 of the xxiv.

Agreed that the sergiaunts, that is to say, of Monk barre, Walmeigate barre, Mekillyth barr, Bothome barre, Castelgate and North strete posterns, shall from nowe furth be dwellyng and abydyng at theyr barrez and posternez or nyghe unto theym and open and spere theyr barrez and posternz at one tyme or elles thei and every of theym to have an able and sufficient deputie for theym, suche on as they and every of theym will answer for apon payn of leesying of theyr officez.

Item the same day it was shewd how that Brian Pullan, servaunt to Sir William Gascoigne, Knyght, upon Monday last past with other ix persons riouttously entred and brake the house of William Chymney, without Mekillith within the suburbz of this

¹ Thassie : the assay; according to regulation.

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Citie, and ther toke and bare awaye iij clothez and di. and theym bare unto Helaye. After whiche shewyng by advice of the said presence a lettre by a comon sergiaunt was sent unto the said Sir William shewyng hym the demeanour of his said servaunt. And therupon George Barbour, one of the Maier sergiauntez, rode with the same letter. Apon sight wherof the said Sir William toke gret displeasour with his servaunt sayng he had no knowleg therof and incontinent send his servaunt with his chapleyn unto my Lord (fo. 22) Maier and presence, comaundyng hyme to submytt hym unto theym and to delivere the cloth agayn, and so he did and humbly maid his submyscion. After whiche submyscon it was considered that for the curtase remaundyng of his servaunt he shuld be pardoned of emprisonment.

Item the same day a lettre mysive of my lord of Surrey what nombre of men defensably arraied shall awayt opon hym in the Kyngs viage towerd Scotland was opynly rede. After whiche redyng it was agreed that iiij^{xx} persons, well and defensably arayed, as well of this Citie as of Aynesty in all goodly hast shalbe prepayred to attend opon my said Lord, and every wardeyn to prepare certein persons in his warde.

fo. 23.

Officers for the York soldiers.

4 August 12 Henry VII (1497). *Present*—Thomas Gray, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 4 of the xxiv.

Determynd that Humfre Maners, esquier and mace berer to my Lord Maier and John Sponer, oone of the Maier sergiants, as a petty captayn to the said Humfre associat, with other to the nombre of lx persons defensabele araied, and the standerd berer shall to morn be prepared to attend opon Therle of Surrey at his goyng toward Scotland and the capitayn and his servaunt, the petty captayne and the standerd berer on the Kyngs wagez and theyr harnes and horse to be born of the Cytiez cost, to have in theyr pursez iiij^{li}

fo. 24.

Assessment for Taxation.**The Sheriffs and the Ainsty.**

13 September 13 Henry VII (1497). *Present*—Thomas Gray, Mayor; and 11 others.

Every wardayn in his ward shall examyn the bills of the half and concernyng every mans lifflod, and al suche lifflod as they fynd bylongyng to holy kyrk to set ther on an C for *ecclesia* and to warne the tenaunts to charge theyr lands lords to be a fore my Lord Maier opon Monday come a seven nyght with al such writyngs as they have for discharge of theyr lifflod or elles the said lifflod to be chargeable unto the same aied.

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It was enacted what persons of this Citie that here after shalbe ellect in to thoffice of Shireffwyk of this Citie shall from hensfurth occupie the wappentake of Aynesty by theyr awn menyall servaunts and houshold servaunts suche as be fraunchessed and entred into the libertiez of this Citie and was not bailly by ix yere next before, and not to let it to ferme to any other person apou payne of forfeittour of x^{li}, and over that to be abject and never hereafter to be one of the Comon Counsell of this Citie. Also it is enacted that if any Alderman or any of the xxiiij of the Comon Counsell of this Citie that here after makez any labore, instaunce, procurez or styrez suche persons as ar in the elleccion of the Shireffs to let the said wappentake contrary to this ordinaunce to forfeit xl^s

fo. 24b.

Regulations concerning the Alnsty.

21 September 13 Henry VII (1497). *Present*—Thomas Gray, Mayor, 16 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 16 of the xxiv.

An acte concernynge the wappentake of Aynesty maid the xij day of Septembre this yere was openly rede to the said presence which singulary¹ affirmed the same ordinaunce to be fermely kept and observed upon the penaltiez comprised in the same.

The same day it was agreed that from this day furth ther shall no person bere thoffice of sergiaunt ne bailly of Aynesty with any Shireff of this Citie hereafter that hase ben in the said office within the space of ix yere to fore and so hereafter successyvely to conteneue. And if any Shireff tak any person into the said office of sergiaunt or bailly contrary to this ordinaunce to forfeit and lez unto the comon well of this Citie x^{li}. And if any Alderman or any of the xxiiij or any other person of this Citie make any labour or instance to any Shireffs or to any beyng in the elleccion of the Shireffs for any person to occupie as sergiaunt or bailly contrary this ordinaunce, to forfeit and lese to the comon well of this Citie xl^s without pardon.

fo. 26.

Appointment of Collectors of Subsidy.

1 October 13 Henry VII (1497). *Present*—Thomas Gray, Mayor and 10 others.

The presence beyng the Kyngs comysconers for the assessyng of the halfe ayde and for to name the collectours of the same, named and appoynted Ric. Symson, wyrdrawer, Joh. Chapell, cooke, William Herryson and Ric. Gibson, cordweners, to be collectours of the fyrst half of the said ayde and subside graunted unto our soverayn lord the Kyng by autorite of his last parlement.

¹ Those present have signed their names.

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fo. 27.

29 December 13 Henry VII (1497). *Present*—Thomas Gray, Mayor, and 8 others.

A lettre missyve from Kyngs Highnes concernyng the pardon of last half was delivered thaym and ther openly rede and an other direct to the collectours of the first half aied for the hasty leve of the same was also openly rede.

fo. 28.

The Ainsty Act. Red and White Herring.

20 December 13 Henry VII (1497). *Present*—Thomas Gray, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 9 of the xxiv.

An acte maid the xiiij day off Septembre last past concernyng the wappentake of Aynesty was openly rede tofore the said presence; after whiche redyng every man was singulary examined if they thoght the Shireffs that nowe be have kept and observed the said acte or not. It was thoght that the Shireffs, that nowe be and ar, hase not kept, observed and perfourmed the said acte; wherfor they thought the Shireffs shuld encourge the penaltie in the same acte lymytted.

Agreed that the sersours of the fyschmongers and couks shall have for the serche of every last rede and whit heryng and sprat iiij^d, wherof to the chamber ij^d and to the said craffts ij^d; and if any stufte after theyr serche be found unable then the said serchours to make fyne therfor after the discesion of the Maier for the tyme beyng.

fo. 32b.

The Sheriffs fined.

9 February 13 Henry VII (1497-8). *Present*—Thomas Gray, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 11 of the xxiv.

[The two Sheriffs were fined 10*℥* for breach of the Aynsty Act; on their payment 8*℥* was remitted]. And over that wher it was determyned that the said Shireffs, Thomas Jameson and John Doggeson shuld be expelled out of the Comon Counseill of this Citie this day it was considered for theyr curtese submysion that Thomas Jameson shall giff toward the selyng of the Comon Hall and Counsell chambre within the same xx waynscots, and John Dogeson for that consideracon that after he was elect Shireff he abstynately absented hym by the space of viij wekez and more and wald not come in and take his othe to the said office accustomed bot contrary his othe maid at his first infraunchesyng was obstinat and disobedient he to giff xl waynscotts toward (fo. 33) the said selyng.

It was determyned to be annexed to the said act maid the xiiij day of Septembre last past that from hensfurth the Shireffs of this Citie that for the tyme shalbe shall occupie the said wappentake by theyr menyall and houshold servaunts, that by suche

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a person as hase ben enfraunchesed and entred into the libertiez of this Citie and conversaunt and dwellyng within this Citie by the space of two hole yere tofore the said person entre into thoccupacion of the said wappentake and he not to be longyng ne reteyned with any other maner man. And over that it is ennacted that any person that is, hase ben or shalbe hereafter bailly under the Shireffs of this Cite and occupie the said wappentake of Aynesty shall from hensfurth not occupie the said wappentake by the space of ix yerez next folowyng the yere that he occupied the same wappentake upon payn of x^{li}.

*fo. 33b.***Difficulty of collecting the Subsidy.**

27 February 13 Henry VII (1497-8). *Present*—John Metcalfe, Mayor, Brian Palmes, Recorder, 7 of the xij, 9 of the xxiv.

Ther come personally tofore the said presence Ric. Blakburn, merchaunt, and deposed that on Candelmes day last past he was at mase at Trenites in Mekilgate, and ther he come to Ric. Gibson, one of the colyours (*sic*) of the halff aiede, sayng he marveled that he was set so myche to the aiede and had not v mark stoke and ther the said Ric. Gibson said he wyst not howe he was set bot many ar set so that we can get noght, bot he wyst wher a bill was maid that wald help men; and he asked hym wher and he shewed hym that Maister John Deyce and the notariez of the Mynster hase maid a bill for theym. And the same day the said Ric. Blakburn and John Herryson, milner, when they had dyned, went unto the said Maister John Deyce and prayed hym that he myght here his bill and when he has hard it rede he said it was a very good bill and prayed hym that he myght have a copy theroff and he shuld giff hym for his labour; and Maister John Deyce said he shuld have a copy, whiche was yesterdā afore the sersours in the Taillour Hall, whiche cōpye the said Ric. Blakburn toke and kept it unto the morn after and as he was at the White freers with Maister John Harryngton for a mattere of travers betwixt Christopher Bentley and John (*fo. 34*) Herryson, milner, and ther desired the same John Herryson to take the said bill and delivere it and shewe it to the sersours that couth rede and if the sersours thought it good then he to delivere it to my Lord Maier

*fo. 34.***Collection of the Subsidy to be hastened.**

15 March 13 Henry VII (1497-8). *Present*—John Metcalfe, Mayor, The Recorder, 8 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

Christofer Langdale, gent., sent from my lord of Carlill and my lord of Surrey shewed how that my said lords merved that the Kyngs duete of the aied and taxe whiche was paiable at the twenty day off Cristenmes last past and as yet is unleveed and discontent, wherfor they dout the Kyngs Grace will take gret

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displeasour with this Citie; and also wheras the charge of the same the Kyngs duete is laid to the poure pepple and my Lord Maier, his Brether and other persons in havour ar bot litill charged toward to the said duete and subside; and also wheras suche persons as be maid collectours wer persons not able in havour, feble and decrepet and not of power to gedder and leve the said Kyngs duete; wherfore the said lords advertise and exort my Lord Maier and the said presence to se that the said duetez in all goodly hast be geddered and leved; for Maister Hubert, the Kyngs attornay, wilbe here at the next assysse and will se the said assesment therfor to provide that ther be no defaute found on ther behalf to be shewed by hym unto the Kyngs Highnez; (*fo. 34b*) and that they shuld call unto theyr remembrance howe good and tender lord the Kyngs Grace is and hath ben unto this Citie and that thei so demeane theym so to conteneue hym. At whiche shewyng my Lord the Maier and al the said presence gaf hertely thankez unto the lords of theyr good and louffyng advertisements and advicez and that they shuld so endeavour theym for the good and hasty leve of the said the Kyngs duete in suche wise as they trust the Kyngs good Grace and the said lords shall (*sic*) take any displeasour ne arret any defaute to theym in that behalve, giffing humble and hertely thanks unto my said lords of theyr tender and louffyng advice in the premissez.

(*fo. 35*). The same day it was determyned that every constable in his parysche shall warne his neighbours that every man in theyr parysche to have his harnez and weppyn redy by hym to attend apon my Lord Maier and the Shireffs at every tyme when they shalbe warned and commanded

fo. 35b.

Alleged illegal arrest.

6 April 13 Henry VII. (1498). *Present*—John Metcalfe, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 13 of the xxiv.

Two lettrez missyve from the Kyngs Highnes wer openly rede tofore the said presence comaundyng theym to cause aiede in al goodly hast to be geddered and leved and sent unto the Kynges eschekour.

The same day John Custaunce brought message from my lord of Carlill and shewed how that his lordship was informed that one Robert Burton for the bettyng of one John Clerk, meteller, was taken by the maires officers within the libertiez and fraunches of Saynt Mary abbey in Fulford feld and commyt to prison within this Citie, whom he desired shuld be restored to the said libertiez of Saynt Mary abbey. At whiche shewyng it was comoned and agreed that the right wurshipfull Sirs, William Chymney and William White, Aldermen, John Stokdale and Peter Couke of the xxiiij shuld go unto the said lord and shewe hym that the said Robert Burton was taken negh the hye way that goes toward

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Seward Howe¹ milne and on the south syde of the said hye way, whiche is fere within the libertiez of this Citie.

fo. 36.

The Collection of the Subsidy.

19 April 13 Henry VII (1498). *Present*—John Metcalfe, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 13 of the xxiv.

It was shewed by the collectours of the aied that they had geddered a hundreth pound and more, whiche some my Lord Mayer comanded theym to make redy, and on monday come a sevenyght to prepare theym to ryde up therwith and delivere it in the Kyngs Escheker with al other more money they can leve in the meane season.

fo. 39b.

Regulations for the common crane.

6 November 14 Henry VII (1498). *Present*—John Metcalfe, Mayor, 6 of the xij, 11 of the xxiv.

Assembled in the Counseill Chambre within the Comon Hall for diverse consideraonz theym movyng and other many gret and urgent causez concernyng the publike well of this Citie and accordyng to the laudable lawe, custome and ordinaunce maid and used in London, Lyne, Hull and other wurshipfull citiez, burghez, townez and portez of this roialme, with thassent and consent of the Comons of this Citie then assembled in the Comon Hall, it is enacted by the said prescence and Comons that al maner of men as well denycen and foreyn that from this day forward shall bryng any maner lede from Burghbrigge or any other place to this Citie by land or water to be wound and weed at the comon crane of this Citie shall from hensfurth pay to the comon well of this Citie for wyndyng and weieng of every foudre lede viij^d, of whiche viij^d, a peny shalbe giffen unto the laborers for bryngyng of a foudre lede from the garret in to the scale therto be weed; and from the scale into the crane garthe and from the crane garth in to the garret agayn ther to be striken. And if any of the said lede so wound and weed and beyng in the said crane garthe ther after happyn to be sold and weed agayn then the seller therof if he be a denycen and sell to another denycen (fo. 40) the seller to pay to the comon well of this Citie for weyng of every foudre suche lede so to be weed agayn l^d; and the bier of the same to the laborers ob. And if any foreyn selle any lede ther to another foreyn then the seller and bier of any suche lede so to be weed agayn to pay to the comon well of this Citie for weeng of every foudre evenly betwix theym xiiij^d

Item it is ennacted the same day that every fraunchest man to pay to the comon well of this Citie for strikyng of every score gret fotemele lede viij^d, provided alway that vj pecez called wethe lede make a gret fotemele accordnyg to the auncient custome.

¹ Seward Howe; Siward Howe, a tumulus in the parish of Heslington.

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Item it is ennacted that every fraunchest man for wyndyng and weeng of every tonne of whete ware at the said crane shall pay to the comon well of this Citie iiij^d, and for every tonne of dry ware iij^d and for every bales wade¹ ob, for every bale mader j^d for every bale waxe batery² ware and al other merchandisez in role for every role ob. and half a rolle ob., for every barell stele iij^d for every tonne yren iij^d and for every last lyn paked iiij^d

Item it is ennacted that every foreyn and unfraunchest man shall pay to the comon well of this Citie for wyndyng and weeng of every tonne of whete ware at the said crane viij^d, for every tonne dry ware vj^d, for every x balez wade vj^d, for every bale mader ij^d, for every role waxe batery ware and other merchandisez in rolez for every role j^d, for every barell stele vj^d, for every tonne yren vj^d, for every last lyn paked viij^d; and for striking of every score grete fotemele lede xx^d, provided alway that vi pecez wethe lede make a gret fotemele as abovesaid.

Item it is ennacted that no maner schip, kele ne bote take in ne delivere any lede, wyn, waxe, yren or any other merchandisez or goods called crane ware bot at the said comon crane upon payn of forfeittour for every tyme of xls to the comon wele of this Citie accordyng unto an auncient ordinaunce ther upon provided.

Item it is ennacted that if any Maier of this Citie that is or for the tyme here after shalbe happyn to be remyse, necligent, (*fo. 40b*) or for favour, kynship, aliaunce, maistership, frendship or for any maner other cause remytt, pardon or forgiff and leve not all and every of the somez and forfeitez and every parcell theroff as is abovesaid or fermely, trewly and diligently kep and observe not all and every of the ordinauncez above specified and every article comprised in the same shall forfeit and leese toward the comon well of this Citie of York his hole fee of fifty pound whyche to hym shall perteyn and bylong by reason of thoffice of mairaltie of the same Citie.³

fo. 43b. **Wrongful claim to goods by the King's almoner.**

6 March 14 Henry VII (1498-9). *Present*—John Elwald, Mayor, The Recorder, 10 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 10 of the xxiv.

Maister Recorder shewed how that Thos Wentworth, servaunt to the Kyngs almosner, the day tofore had shewed to my Lord Maier the Kyngs graunt how that the almosner shuld have the goods of all *felonz de se* and deodands, as well within citiez and libertiez as without, by reason wheroff he clameth to have the goods of William Ratcliff, esquier, whiche as he says shuld have slayn hym selfe and had certan goods within this Citie; after whiche shewyng the said Thomas Wentworth come tofore the

¹ Wade; fine clay to cover the body of inferior material.

² Batery; beaten ware.

³ For earlier crane regulations see *York Memorandum Book*, vol. II, p. 81.

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said presence and ther Maister Recorder by the assent of the said presence shewed for answer unto the said Thomas Wentworth that the Maier and Shireffs of this Citie by reason of diverse kyngs sithe the tyme that no mynd is hase used to have al suche goods and never the Kyngs almosner ne non mynistre or officer of the Kyngs.

fo. 45. **The Kings almoner's right to certain goods disproved.**
Election and dismissal of Aldermen.

8 April 14 Henry VII (1499). *Present*—John Elwald, Mayor, The Recorder, 8 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 8 of the xxiv.

By the Kyng.

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you wele; and where as we be enformed that oon William Ratcliff of Craven, gentilman, of late felonsly killed hymself by reason wherof all his goods by our prerogatife roiall owen justly to belongen unto us and to be distributed in deds of charitie by the discreccion of our Almoner, and forasmoche as the said William as it is credibly reported unto us had diverse goods within the libertie of our Citie of York at the tyme of comyttynge of the said destable offence, whiche ye have attached and by colour clayme to belong unto you by reason of certan graunts maid hertofore to our said Citie, by occasion wheroff Thomas Wentworth deputie ther to our said Almoner cannot make levie of the said goods to our great prejudice in that partie, neverthesse for the parfite knowlege and declaracion herof we woll and straitly charge you that without delay upon the sight heroff ye delyver alle suche goods as ye thus deteigne unto the said Thos Wentworth, or ells alle excusez laide apart ye in your owne persones or by the Recorder of our said Citie, sufficiently instructed and auctorized, be and personally appere afore us and our Counsaill whersoever we shalbe in this our Royaume, within xv daies next after the sight heroff, to shewe and allegge for you why our said Almoner shall not have the disposicon of the said goods accordyng to our said prerogatif; not failing heroff upon payne of c^{li} and as ye (*fo. 45b*) wol answer unto us at your further perells. Yeven under oure privie seal at our manour of Grenewyche the xxvjth day of Marche.

To the Maiour and Shireffs of our Citie of York.

After whiche redyng my Lord Maiour shewed how that my lord of Carlill shewyd hym that the Kyngs good Grace and the Kyngs Almoner had written unto hym to take a direccion anenst the mater concernyng the said privat seale, desireng that my Lord Maier and Shireffs wold shewe hym if they have any grauntez wherby they clayme to have any goods so forfett. Wher upon it was agreed that Maister Recorder, Maisters Lancaster, Gilliot, Neleson, Stokdale, the Common Clerk and the Chamberlaynez

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this afternone shuld make serche for the said grauntez. And at after none they come into the Counseill chambre opon Ousebrigge and ther found Kyngs Henry VIth graunt *anno* xxxvij concernyng the said goods and many other thyngs. The whiche lettrez of graunt on the morn next after wer shewed unto the right reverend fader in God my lord of Carlill in the mansion and dwellyng place of late Sir Ric. York; and when his lordship by good deliberacion had overseen the said lettrez of graunt he as good and tender lord unto this Citie said louffyngly unto my Lord Maier etc., then beyng ther present, he wald not have trustyd the Citie had hade so large a graunt bot as for that matere he wold certifie the Kyngs Grace and the Almoner how that he had seen the said lettrez and that it belongs unto this Citie.

(fo. 45). (After the xxiv had left the Council) it was thoght that from hensfurth ther shuld non Alderman be chosen ne discharged of his rome bot that the Aldermen for the tyme beyng shalbe lawfully warned to be at the elleccion or dischargyng; and at the leest every Alderman to have an nyght warnyng and that the Maier for the tyme beyng shall not elect of newe ne discharge non Alderman without thassent and consent of x or viij of his brether at the leest.

fo. 45b.

The income of the City.

Rules for priests of St. Williams Chapel.

2 May 14 Henry VII (1499). *Present*—John Elwald, Mayor, 6 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 9 of the xxiv.

A bill of divers defaults fond by my Lord Maier and many other honest Commons concernyng the comon liflod was openly rede. And after it was agreed that my Lord Maier, Maister Recorder etc. shuld examyn the said bill and every matere and article comprised in the said (*sic*) and suche dirreccion and ordour as my Lord Maier and the persons above said makez therin to be kept and fermely observed, and thei to mete at the Common hall on Tuesday next comyng.

It was determyned that the iiij pretez within Saynt William chapell opon Ouse brigge from Michelmes next comyng shalbe at burd and comensall togeder in the hall within the said chapell, and they to be of good, quiete, peciable and honest conversacion and demeanour emong theym, and if any of theym do the contrary or attempt any thyng in breche of the peace, dyshonesty or inquietnes emong theym in byhavyng, demeanour, word or dede and that lawfully aproved tofore the Maier for the tyme beyng shal forfet at the first tyme vjs viij^d, at the ij^d tyme xijjs iiij^d, wherof one half to the well of Saynt William chapell and the other half to amending of theyr comons; and if any of theym forfet the iiijth (*sic*) tyme he to be expulsed furth of the same chapell for ever. And ilkon of theym to be stuerd a weke or a fourtnyght

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about, and that non of theym giff no vitail ne other goods that thei have in comon emong theym to any person in the town upon the said paynes to be execut and leved by the Maier for the tyme beyng.¹

fo. 46.

Weighing lead at the common crane.**Rule for speaking at Council Meetings.**

14 May 14 Henry VII (1499). *Present*—John Elwald, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

A lettre of private seale beryng date the xxiiij day of Aprill concernyng the acte late maid for weyng of lede at the comon crane, whiche was delivered yesternyght unto my Lord Maier by one . . .² Cotez, servaunt to Sir William Conyers, was opynly rede; after which redyng it was agreed that Maisters William Whyte and William Neleson, Aldermen, and Maister Recorder, of the comon costs shal ride up unto the Kyngs Grace for answer of the said private seale.

It was ennacted that if any of the Comon Counseill at any assemble ryse from his place or speke out of his rome to forfet and pay at every tyme iiij^d without pardon.

fo. 47.

The lead miners of Richmondshire.

28 May 14 Henry VII (1499). *Present*—John Elwald, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

It was determyned that John Metcalfe, William Neleson, Aldermen, and Maister Recorder of the comon costs on fryday next comyng shall ryde and take theyr journey toward London ther to answer tofore the Kyngs Highnes and the lords of his noble counseill for the matere of the lede mynours of Richemond shire after the private seale therupon, and they to have with ilkon of theym two men and every Alderman and the Recorder to have xij^d on the day and every of theyr men x^d on the day; the Chamberleyens to deliver them money for xx daies; and thei to retheyne of counsell with this Citie a sergiaunt and a apprentice, and what cost as thei make for the retheynd of their counseill in that behalfe thei to be repaid therof at their home comyng; and if thei abid over xx dayes then thei in like wise to be repaid of suche money as thei spend more then for xx daies after the rate as is to foresaid.

fo. 48.

9 July 14 Henry VII (1499). *Present*—John Elwald, Mayor, 12 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 7 of the xxiv.

¹ St. William's Chapel on Ousebridge was the property of the City Council, as was also St. Anne's chapel on Fossbridge.

² Blank in original.

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John Metcalfe, Maister Recorder, and William Neleson, whiche lately had ben at London shewed ij bills of complaynt and answer unto the same with replicacions and rejoindours put unto the Kyngs Highnez by the mynours of Richemondshire agayn the Maier and citicins of this Citie was openly rede. And over that they shewed that my Lord Chaunceller and the lord (*sic*) of the Kyngs most noble counseill had ordeined and comaunded that my lord of Carlill shuld apoynt and name one indeferent person to resceyve for every fodder lede ther after to be weed at the crane iiij^d ob. and that savely to kep oonto suche tyme as it be clerly determyned to whome it shalbe perteyne and belong. After whiche shewyng it was agreed by the said presence that my Lord Maier, Maisters (*fo. 48b*) Gilliot, White and Kyrk havyng and takyng with theym ij pykes and xij^d in mayn brede of the comon cost of this Citie shuld furthwith personaly go to Overton unto my said lord of Carlill and knawe of his lordship what person it shall please hym to assigne to take and perceyve of every foudre lede iiij^d ob.

fo. 48b.

12 August 14 Henry VII (1499). *Present*—John Elwald, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 6 of the xxiv.

It comonned howe that Maister Hubert, the Kyngs attorney for the examinacion of the matere of travers betwix my Lord Maier and citicins of this Citie on the one partie and the mynours of lede in Richmondshire on that other partie wold be here on our Lady day Assumpcion at nyght next ensuyng. After whiche comunicacion (*fo. 49*) it was determyned that my Lord Maier of the comon cost of this Citie shuld desire hym to take a pyke at the fyschgarthez, and if he shewe that he is assigned as indeferent betwix the said parties and that he may not come to ather partie then my Lord Maier of the comon cost and the other partie of theyr cost jointly to provide for his dyner at his awn loggyng.

fo. 50. **Recognition of the good offices of a royal chaplain.**

27 September 15 Henry VII (1499). *Present*—John Elwald, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 11 of the xxiv.

A lettre misyve from Maister Ric. Nykez, one of the Kyngs chapleyns, and prebendary of Tanghall, was openly rede. Also two of the Aldermen, whiche late wer at London and the Recorder, for the matere of the lede men of Richemondshire and for the deodands *bonis felonium de se* anenst the Kyngs Almoner shewed howe that the said Maister Nykez had ben especiall good and tender maister to this Citie in the said maters unto the Kyngs good Grace, my lord of Durham, and other lords of the Kyngs counseyll, for whiche his favourable demeanour at that tyme and that here after he wold so conteneue he desired to have the Tangfeld yerely

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severall from Michelmes unto our Lady day in Lent in the name of a yerely fee and reward and in non other maner. After whiche shewyng and rype comunicacion had and by good deliberacion it was thought right, necessary and expedient for this Citie, considering the grete and weghty maters it hase to be labored and solite unto the Kyngs Grace and to the lords of his Counsiell, to have the said Maister Nikez tender and favourable toward this Citie as well in the said maters as in all other hereafter concernyng this Citie, for whiche consideracionz it was determyned that the said Maister Nikez shall have the said Tangfeld on the south syde of Fosse for this yere in severaltie (*fo. 50b*) and so yerely duryng the pleasour of the Maier etc. in maner and forme ensuyng.—that is to say that yerely upon Michelmes day at none the yate of the said Tangfeld by the fermour therof for the tyme beyng shalbe sett open and the cocitisyns of this Citie for the contenuaunce and conservacion of theyr right and yerely usage of theyr comon in the said Tangfeld shall put in theyr catell and ther use theyr etage and comon all that nyght and on the morn to take theyr catell furth, and then the said Maister Nykez and his fermour to have and hold the said feld for this yere in severaltie from the frst of Michelmes unto our Lady day in Lent, and so yerely—and that the cocitisyns of this Citie yerely use and hase theyr comon and etage from Michelmes unto our Lady day in Lent in the feld on the north syde Fosse and in the Tang grene as thei have done in tyme past

It was determyned that Maister Recorder of the comon costs with ij men next terme of Michelmes shall ryde unto London for the good spede of the materez of deodands and anenst the lede men of Richemondshyre.

fo. 51. **The common crane to be used for weighing lead.**

30 September 15 Henry VII (1499). *Present*—John Elwald, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 15 of the xxiv.

It was ennacted that from this day furth no fraunchest man of this Citie in his awn person nor non other for hym or to his use or byhove bye no maner lede comyng from Swaledale, Wenslaydale or Craven and wee it at Burghbrygge nor at any other place furth of this Citie bot that they bryng almaner suche lede unto the comon crane of this Citie and ther wee it and pay almaner duytez and customez therupon ordeyned apon the payne of forfeittour for every foudre lede so to be bought and weed at Burghbrigge or at any other place out of this Citie contrary to this ordinaunce xx^s

fo. 52 **Enquiry into a murder ordered.**

2 December 15 Henry VII (1499). *Present*—John Elwald, Mayor, 10 of the xij, 8 of the xxiv.

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To our trusty and welbelouffed the Maier of our Citie of York.

By the Kyng.

Trusty and webelouffed we grete you well, and be certainly enformed that a great and ryght haynous murdre hath be lately comytted within that our Citie of York upon a tenaunt of the priorese of Nonmonkton by one Henry Bentley and other servants unto Miles Willesthorp, squier, whiche said Henry bothe after and sithens this detestable dede was don hath been aided and comforted therfor by the said Miles, as it is said. Wherupon we consideryng that amongs all erthly offenses wilfull murdre is oon of the grettest that abhorreth both God and man, entendyng therfor no suche to passe us unpunnyshed woll and stratly charge (*fo. 52b*) you that accordyng to the duetie of your office and auctorite under us within our said Citie ye doo this said murdre spedily and laufully to be enquired of and the same to be presented as well apon the principalls as apon thaccessories like as the thing was don in dede; and in so myche as the said Henry Bentley for his refuge and socour in this caas kepeth hymself within a house of Freers¹ within our said Citie and the Priour therof called Tofts and his bredern noyse the same for a sayntuary, we therfor woll that callyng the said Prior before you and your bredren, ye comaund hym in our name to shewe ther such writtyng as he hath for the privilege of his said place in that byhalve, of the whiche writtyng, if any suche be, we wol ye send unto us a true transcript, word for word, with suche other things touchyng the mater as ye shall think for us necessary to be advertise of. Yeven under signet at our paloys of Westminster the xvjth day of Novembre.

fo. 53.

11 December 15 Henry VII (1499). *Present*—John Elwald, Mayor, The Recorder, 6 of the xij, 13 of the xxiv.

Maister Recorder, whiche this last terme had ben at London for the matier of the ledemen shewed how that ther couth non end be had therin bot that it was put in respite unto Hillary terme next, and in likewise the matier of deodands is deferred come Hillary terme.²

fo. 70. **Alleged affray by servants of the Bishop of Carlisle.**

Rules for Aldermen and Councillors.

13 February 15 Henry VII (1499-1500). *Present*—William Nelson, Mayor, 11 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

¹ This house of Friars was that of the Dominicans which stood on Toft Green.

² Folios 54-68 contain nothing but lettings of tenements belonging to the city during the mayoralty of John Elwald

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Alan Staveley, one of the Shireffs of this Citie, shewed howe that in the nyght next tofore past about xj of the cloke, Thomas Redman, esquier to the bishop of Carlill, Barton, with diverse other personez with theym associat to the nombre of xvj persons and mo defensably araied rioutously affreied one Robert Sadiler and other of his brother servaunts and his in the Thuresday market and in Conyngstrete afore the dore of the same Alan. After whiche shewyng it was determyned that Maisters Nicholas Lancastre, John Gilliot, William White, Aldermen, and Maister Recorder shuld go unto Saynt Mary abbey and ther shewe the said bishop of Carlill all the demeanour and byhavyng of his said servaunts and desire hym that he will lett his said servaunts come in and submytt theym unto my Lord Maier and Shireffs for theyr mysbyhavyng; and when the said Aldermen had shewed unto my said lord of Carlill the premysez he called unto hym the said Redeman and he utterly denyed the said shewyngs. Wherupon my said lord of Carlill toke in maner displeasour with the said Aldermen and Recorder and bad theym layng faut to any of his servaunts bot if they couthe (*fo. 70b*) prove it, and if thei couth make prove therof he wold punnysche his servaunts.

The same day it was enact that no Alderman ne any other of the Comon Counsell of this Citie from nowe furth go with any occupaccion or craft bot they at every generall assemble, procession and offeryng as on the morn after Corpus Christi day, Saynt Stephen day, Saynt William day and the two obettez at the Freers mynours, attend opon my Lord Maier for the tyme beyng, go and offere in theyr rome apon payn of forfeittour for every tyme that any Alderman or any of (the) xxiiij do the contrary of xij^d to the comon well of this Citie. And that every Alderman and al other of the xxiiij shall come to every generall assemble, procession and offeryng in such colour and clothynge as thei shalbe warned to comon in by the comon officers apon payn of other xij^d. And also that every Alderman have theyr clothynge of violet, murrey, cremyson and scarlet, and ilkon of the xxiiij have theyr clothynge of violet, murrey and cremysson afor Palme-sonday next ensuyng apon payn of xx^s for every clothynge that thei want. And that every Alderman and of the xxiiij come personally to every assemble when they shalbe warned by the Maier esquyers and Comon sergiaunts at the oure assigned by my Lord Maier opon payn of every man that cometh after the oure of ij^d and of al other that ar (*fo. 71*) absent of iiij^d without thei have reasonable and lawfull cause and excuse, and if thei can prove that thei had no lawfull warnyng by suche officers as shuld have giffen theym warnyng; then the said officer shall pay like payn and ferfett. And that every Maier for the tyme beyng shall gedder and leve all and ilkon of the sayd payns or elles to pay it of his awn fee.

It was determyned that every Alderman that hath been

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Maier of this Citie at the next assemble when clokez shalbe worne have his cloke of scarlet and so contenually were and have it at every assemble and procession apon payn of v marks to be leved of his goods

It was agreed that all actez and ordinauncez in a paupire boke called *Acta Diversorum* from hensfurth shalbe kept ferm and stable, and that the Maier for the tyme beyng execut all the said acts and every article therof.

fo. 72b.

Regulations respecting sheepskins.

18 March 15 Henry VII (1499-1500). *Present*—William Nelson, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 17 of the xxiv.

A bill of petition put to my Lord Maier and the said presence by the glovers and parchymeners of this Citie for a reformation anenst the buchers of this Citie for cuttyng of the cheks, erez and a part of the nek of shepe skynnez was openly rede and after by thaym affirmed and admitted to be registred as an act and ordinaunce hereafter to be kept, as it more at large appereth in the newe registre of this Citie called *Liber Memorandorum*.

It was enact that from hensfurth no glover, pouchemaker, sadeler, cutler, armorer ne shomaker of this Citie wyrk no shep skynnes barked apon payn of every shep skyn of xx^d

fo. 73.

Ownership of ground outside Bootham Bar.

24 March 15 Henry VII (1500). *Present*—William Nelson, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 11 of the xxiv.

My Lord Maier shewed how that Thos Kendall, smyth, of late had set up a payre of newe traves¹ on the comon ground without Bouthome Barre and without any licence of my Lord Maier, and when my Lord Maier charged hym to pull theym down and not to ocupie theym ther without he agreed with hym and the Commonaltie the said Thos. Kendall answerd and said that my lord of Carlill had giffen hym leve to set theym ther, and my Lord Maier said he dowted whether my lord of Carlill had any suche ryght and power; and Thos Kendall then asked hym if he shuld shewe it soo to my lord of Carlill and my Lord Mayer said—yay if he wold. And theropon the said Thos Kendall went unto my lord of Carlill and shewed hym that if my lord of Carlill pulled not down the said traves my Lord Maier wold, wher of trouth my Lord Maier shewed Kendall no suche sayng.

fo. 74b.

The dispute between the City and St. Mary's Abbey.

1 April 15 Henry VII (1500). *Present*—William Nelson, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 17 of the xxiv.

¹ Trave; a beam; probably here a wooden building.

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It was agreed that in consideracon that my lord of Carlill hase hertofore be good and tender lord to this Citie he shuld be comond with and meved that the mattere of travers betwix his monastery of Saynt Mary and this Citie for the ground betwix Bothome Barre and the round towre at Seynt Marygate end myght be indeferently examyned by ij or iiij lerned personez and that the traves of newe set up ther to be taken down by hym that sett theym ther; and that my Lord Maier, Maister Recorder etc. were assigned furthwith to go and shewe his lordship the above said mocion. Al whiche went unto hym at Saynt Mary abbey, and ther by the mouth of Maister Recorder shewed hym that they in the name of the hole Citie besought his lordship to be theyr good and tender lord like as thei and al the Citie hase had and found hym in many and diverse maters of this Citie, humbly besechyng hym of his good and tender contenance, and that wher ther is a payre of horse traves of late set in a voide ground betwix Bothome Barre and the round towre at Saynt Marygate end, whiche void ground my Lord Maier and Comon Counseill saith (*fo.* 75) is parcell of the suburbs of this Citie may be taken away by hym that set theym ther, and that he will forbere of makyng any more byldyng or inclosure on the said void ground unto tyme that it wald please hym two lerned men, two sergiaunts or two juggez the next terme had indeferently viewed and examyned the composicion and concord of auncient tyme maid betwix this Citie and the monastery of Seynt Mary. Wherunto my said lord of Carlill answerd and said that he perfutely knew the said void ground was his ground and that he entended in hast to make byldyng thereon and wald not let so to do and if the Citie have any right or titill therto let theym shewe it unto the Kyngs good Grace and his Counseill and what ordour the Kyng taks therin he wold abid it, bot he utterly knewe it for his ground and he wald never put it in any trecty.

fo. 76.**Order of the Chamberlains.****Insulting language to the Mayor.**

13 April 15 Henry VII (1500). *Present*—William Nelson, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 15 of the xxiv.

It was enact that from nowe furth the Chamberleyns at al processions, offerands and dyners within this Citie shall go, offer and sytt next unto the xxiiij; and that the maister of Saynt Christofer and of Saynt George gild shall go next unto the Chamberleyns

The same day it was shewed howe that William Staveley hath had myche (76*b*) unsittyng langage unto my Lord Maier awn person, saying that if he had not the swerd tofore hym he set not an stray¹ by hym, and if he wer Shireff of York as Alan his

¹ An stray; probably a straw.

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brother is he wald not to prison for the Maier, with myche more mysbyhavyng; and over that he hase maid instaunce and labour to the lord Latymer and gotten a lettre mysyve from hym unto my Lord Maier, and when he delivered the said lettre he said (*sic*) wold not pay any peny for any thyng that he had done in his lede byeng bot bade send to his brother for if he promysed to me I shuld never pay peny; for whiche mysbyhavyng it was agreed that he shuld be comytt to ward in the Maiers prison unto he wald frely submytt hym unto my Lord Maier, and at his comyng furth of ward he for that he had don contrary to the act of lede late maid and for his mysbyhavyng to delivere unto the Chamberleyns v mark and his shop to be shet unto tyme he had payd the said v mark.

fo. 77. **Letter from the Bishop of Carlisle, Abbot of St. Mary's, York, to the Mayor.**

30 April 15 Henry VII (1500). *Present*—William Nelson, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 14 of the xxiv.

Mayster Maier, in my lovyngest maner I commaunde me unto you, and in like wise to your honourable Bredren, shewyng you that of late nowe in the begynnyng of this Lent last passed ye and your brethren hath letted me and my bredren to let to ferme our ground lyng betwix the rounde towre at Saynt Mary-gate end and Bothome Barre, whiche hath ben our severall ground hertofore and lettyn to ferme to dyvers folks and personez by thabbatts, my predecessors, and ther officers for tyme beyng as it shall appere more playnly of record when tyme shalbe requyred. Maister Maier nowe in your tyme ther ar questions maid to me and the monastery, whiche I have reule of, that hath not ben maid hertofore (*fo. 77b*) to barre me and my forsaid bredren of right to occupie that grounde that ye ne your brethern had never in possession or rule of but we of our monasterye at our libertie to occupie the same for our avantage and to our proufet as it appereth of record. Thos Gray beyng Meyre of late and Sir Ric. York, Knyght with hym and many other of the Citie with the lerned counseill of the same maid a question to us when we brake our walle thre yeres past to make our postrone,¹ who supposed that we shuld sett the same postrone upon the Citie ground and we shuld goe forwards with that wark, wherupon a day of metyng was appointed that the said Thomas Gray, then beyng Meyre, with certen of his Bredern and the Councell of the Citie and we and our Councell shuld all mete at one day at Saynt Mary abbay, that the evydence of our said monastery myght be shewed to the

¹ This postern gateway and tower near Bootham Bar is still in existence and the mistaken popular tradition that the gateway was made in 1503 to allow the Princess Margaret easy access to the Minster is unfortunately given credence by a tablet affixed to it. The date of its construction is settled by this document.

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said Meyre, his Bredren and the Councell of the Citie, whiche was don and fulfilled and the day appointed keped, and our evidence then woll seen and consayved to the whiche evidence of ours ther was founde at that tyme no contradiccion by any maner of evidence shewed that tyme by the sayd Meyre, his Brethern or the Councell. Then I with thadvice of my bredern and our Councell proceded furthe in makeng of our porstrone and the towre ther for (*fo. 78*) the ease of us and our monasterye and honour of the same and for the strenghe and defence of the Citie, and from the begynnyng and setting of the first ston of the said werke to it was fenysshed and complete maid and used, whiche is more then thre yeres past, ther was never question maid to me ne to our monastery seth that tyme to nowe at the begynnyng of Lent, that ye nowe beyng Meyre inhibet Kendall that is a smyth to occupie the smyth traves that we had licenced hym to set ther upon the said ground, whiche nowe I have bought of hym and thenketh to occupie at our pleasour and for proufete if the grounde betwix the saide rounde towre and the said Barre of the said Citie be myn and my bredren whiche we put no dowte ynne but that it is. And therfor, Maister Meyre, at our beyng togader within Saynt Mary abbay, Maister Chauntour, Maister Chaunceler and Maister Subdean of the cathedrall Church of York then beyng present, ye harde myche of this that I nowe write to yowe with myche more of the same, whiche wer to long to wryte, but I dowte not but ye bere the same in your remembrance. And at our departyng I told you that I wolde frame tymber to beilde a house upon that grounde whiche shuld coste me xx marks, but I said to you or I wold set it up I wold tell you therof that in meane tyme ye shuld serche if ye had any writting to shewe to let me and our monastery to take our pleasour and proufet of the same our ground. Sir, we entende to frame our tymber in the hast we can but or the (*fo. 78b*) tymber come to the grounde we muste first set a ground sole¹ of ston upon whiche our tymber muste stand for mostenes of the grounde, as ye knawe right well, therfor the grounde soling of the same muste be our first framying of the same house that I entend God willing to beilde, and that furthwith in al haste. Therfor Maister Mayre I and my bredre disyre you and all your honourable Brethren that be of your Councell to doe me and this monastery that I have rewle of neither hurte ne damage ne be not aboutewards to make our grounde to be yours, ye have no myster² of ours, and if ye can make that grounde yours and prove it laufully with the Kyngs lawez and your evidence and the ordour of charite, I and all my Brethren shalbe well content to answer you to the Kynges lawez accordynge like therunto, and yf ye with your Brethren interup me and us to have our libertie and take our proufite of that grounde, then I and my said brethren must seche and labour to the Kyngs most noble

¹ A ground sole; a foundation.² Myster; need; necessity.

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Grace and to his lawez, for in our right his grace muste neds be to us foundour and protectour. And of the other syde our Councell shalbe to your and to your honourable Brethren if ye can fynd by auctorite of your evidence and good conscience that we do any wrong or prejudice to you and the Citie then compleyne of us manerly as we wold doe of you if ye did wrong to us and of this wise we may kep charite and luff with frenship, for, Maister Mayer, one thyng I woll say to you and all your wurshipfull Brether, ther was never man of my poore degre that hath occupied the rowme that I kep that hath ben more lovyng to the Citie and to all that dwelleth theryn then I have ben and that in some partie therof I woll take wittenes to the Kyngs most noble Grace and to other some lords of his moste honourabill Councell, than I shall reporte me to the most reverend fader in God my lord Arch (fo. 79) bischop of York and to his honourable churche and to the most substance of men of honour withyn the said Citie that paraventour and it come therunto shalbe my witnes of my lovyng dealing to the said Citie and entende to persever to my liffs ende. I can or may doe but litle but ever my good words, my pure good writyng and my pure dede hath ever ben redy for you and for the Citie after my litill power and therfor I wold be sory to loose the favour and the luff of myn olde frends in the Citie for occupieng of our oune grounde. Therfor Maister Mayer if ye have any thyng to shewe me and my Councell that (*sic*) may not occupie the said grounde we desire you that it may now be seen, suche as ye may abide bye and woll make for you, and if ye have not that thyng that can make for you to stoppe of reason, we desire you and you all be not myscontent that we occupie our oune ground whiche now we entend to doe, and as ye entende to doe touchyng these premisses in every behalf we desire you to asserteyne us by your wrytting within viij dayes next ensuyng. And thus we shall pray as we doe dayly to beseche our lord God to preserve you and all thenhabitants within the said Citie. From the pore manour of Overton the xxviij day of Aprile

Your own luvyng frende W. Cartell.

After whiche redyng it was agreed that an answer shulbe drawn in writtyng and after shewed to the said presence and then to be maid up clen and sent to the said reverend fader of Carlill.

fo. 79b.

Skinners ordinances. The hat of maintenance.

The same day at the special request of the hole craft of skynners within this Citie and suburbs it was ennacted that no taillour nor any other person fure no mans ne womans gownes, colers ne cuffez or any garments opon payn of forfeittour for every tyme vj^s viij^d—provided alway that the skynners of this Citie fure to every fraunchest person of this Citie a gown or other gar

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ment of two yerds for viij^d, of iij yerds for xij^d, of iiij yerds for xvj^d and so after the rate, and the said skynners to fure to all foreyns and unfraunchest persons as thei and the said skynners can agree to theyr most avauntage; and that no skynner ne any other person of this Citie from hensfurth wyrk no stufte tawed by any glover apon payn of vj^s viij^d; and that no skynner ne non other person of this Citie wirke ne tawe no prest stuff that is bought rawe ne fure no prest gownez or garments in theyr chambres apon payn of vj^s viij^d. And the grauntez and ordinancez above said to be kept ferme and stable. The said skynners byndeth theym and theyr successours to make and sustene yerely of theyr costs and chargez an hate of mayntenaunce¹ of good, fyne and pure gray for the honour and wurship of this Citie.

fo. 80.

Horners Ordinances.

The same day at the special request of the hole craft of horners it was ennacted that no horner within this Citie etc. take apon hym to wyrke in the craft of horner or in any poynt of the same crafft unto tyme he be infraunchest, examyned, abled and admyted by the sersours of horners. Item that no man of the said crafft wyrke any maner thyng longyng to the said crafft with any person of any other crafft or occupacon within the Citie, bot with a maister of the crafft of horners, provided alway that the maisters of the crafft of horners giff to the men of the same crafft reasonable hyre and salary as they may desire, and elles thei to werke wher they please at theyr libertie, so that the Maier for the tyme beyng have examynacon if the maisters profer reasonable hyre and salary. Item that no maister of the said craft take men apprentice for lese terme then for vii yere togedder, and that by indentour, and to shewe theyre indentour unto the serssours of the said crafft within xiiij dayes next after the date of the same.

Item if ther serssours of the said crafft fynd any maner stufte or werke longyng to the same crafft unably wrought and maid then he that maid suche stufte to forfeit iij^s iiij^d

(fo. 80b) Horners from nowe furth in payng pagiant money to be contributory with the cutlers and bladsmythez.

fo. 81.

Aldermanic powers.**Answer to the Bishop of Carlisle.**

2 May 15 Henry VII (1500). *Present*—Wm Nelson, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 14 of the xxiv.

The letter of my lord of Carlill was eftsonez rede and after it was agreed that an answer to the same shulbe drawen and shewed to the said presence as ensuyth hereafter.

Agreed that if any Alderman comaunded any person within the Citie and libertie of the same to ward and prison for cause

¹ See *The York Cap of Maintenance*, by Robert Davies, York, 1865.

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reasonable and lafull, that then the Maier for the tyme beyng shal not take the said person furth of prison unto the tyme he send unto the Alderman and knawe the cause, and if it be reasonable the said person not to depart furth of prison bot by agrement of the said Alderman.

To the right reverend fader in God right honourable and myn especiall good lord, my lord of Carlill.

Right reverend fader in God etc.—where of late it hath pleased the same (*fo. 81b*) to write to me and my brethern that ther shuld in my tyme questions be maid whiche that hath not ben maid hertofore anenst your lordship and the right wurshipfull maisters, your brethern, for the occupieng of a certeyn ground betwix Bothome Barre and the round towre at Saint Marygate end, whiche ye my lord saith is your severall ground; my lord, I and my brether supposeth that we in the right of the Kyngs good grace and this his Citie hath ben in possession of the said ground, and like question was maid at the begynnyng and setting of the newe towre late annexed unto your wall as was supposen. And my lord thoff ther had no question ben maid hertofore I beseche your lordshipp the othe that I maid at entre of myn office, whiche was that I shuld maynteyn and support the Kyngs right and libertiez of this Citie, and that ground I and my brethern supposen of treuth is the Kyngs right and his Citiez and the right of the said grounde undetermined remembryng my said othe I couthe do no lesse. Wherfor I beseke your lordship to take no displeasour in that byhalf, and for the examynaccion of the right of the said ground I and my brether besecheth and desireth your lordship to assigne two of your Councell, and we by your licence shall assigne two of our Councell, afore whome the right and title of this Citie for the said ground shalbe shewed at suche tyme and place as it shall please your lordship to appoynt, and if then it seme to theym doutfull to whom the right of the said ground pertyneth, that then it shall please your said lordship that two Juges or two Sergiaunts indeferently named may determyne the said (*fo. 82*) title without any ferther suyte or compleynt, for my brether mynd and myn is not to make ferther compleynt if we may otherwise do, and in the meane season we pray and desire your lordship that the said ground may rest without any ferther occupieng therof.

Redy to do your lordship service; the Maier of the Citie of York and his Brether¹

¹ An answer to the above was received on 13 May. The Abbot says there is no doubt at all about the matter and this was so acknowledged by the City Council "at the beildyng of our late newe Postren and towre ther." He proposed to go on with his building plan. The City writes again with the result that on 16 May the Abbot consents to having the evidences laid before the King and his Council for their decision—but refuses to stop building.

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fo. 82b.

Two Acts affirmed.

15 May 15 Henry VII (1500). *Present*—William Nelson, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 14 of the xxiv.

An acte maid the xviiijth day of Marche last past concernyng the buchers, glovers, parchymyners, pouchemakers, sadilers, cutlers, armorers ne shomakers of the Citie shuld not wirk no barked schep skynnes was openly rede and afermed.

Item an act maid in the tyme of the right wurshipfull sir, George Kyrk, concernyng the buchers, that thei shuld not have no grissyng within the precinct and libertiez of this Citie was rede. And after it was agreed that my lord Maier shuld execut and observe the said act in every poynt and article.

fo. 87.

The controversy with St. Mary's Abbey.**Places of sale for malt, provisions, swine.**

22 May 15 Henry 7 (1500). *Present*—William Nelson, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 17 of the xxiv.

Maister Recorder shewed how that my lord Maier, his Brether and he hase been with my lord Archbischof and that his lordship shewed theym he stode visitour to Saynt Mary Abbey and that he myght not be withe the Citie agayne the Abbey, bot he wald send unto my lord of Carlill and meve hym unto a treate and what answer as he had he wald send my lord Maier word

It was agreed that Maister Recorder with iiij horsez with hym of the comon cost shall ride unto the Kyngs highnes and shewe hym the demeanour of my lord of Carlill anenst the ground without Bouthom Barre. And wrytyng to be maid in the most tendre wyse unto my lord the Duke of York, my lord Cardinall, my lord of Durham, Maister Naykez, Maister Bray, besechyng theym to be good and tendre lords and maisters unto this (Citie) in matere concernyng the said ground.

(fo. 87b). It was determyned that for so myche as the matere of traverse betwix this Citie and my lord of Carlill, abbot of Saynt Mary abbey, yet dependeth undiscussed, and that the said abbot and convent will not forbere of byldyng on the ground betwix Bothome Barre and the round towre at Seynt Marygate end, in escheewyng of all riots or inconveniencs that myght happyn therby, that my Lord Maier, his Brether, and Common Counseill on monday next in the croce weke¹ ne on Monday in Witsonweke shall not go in procession to Saynt Mary abbey, and that my lord Maier to morn at vij of the cloke in the mornyng shall have tofore hym and the Recorder in Comon Hall all the sersours and commaund theym apou gret paynes and grevouse punyshments of theyr bodyes to kep and bere the Kyngs peace and nather to do or say to any man bylongyng to my lord of Carlill ne do anythyng to the

¹ The Croce weke; Holy Week.

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byldyng without Bothome Barre, bot to be of good and peaceable demeanour in every behalf and to shew theym the premisez that my lord Maier and his Brether in eschewyng of inconveniencs will not go in procession etc. *ut supra*.

fo. 88.

Proclamation.

My lord the Maier and Shyreffs of this Citie chargeth and commaundeth on the Kyng our soveraigne lord behalf that all those that useth to bryng malt on horse baks to this Citie to selle, that thei bryng all suche malt unto Saynt Martyn Kirk syde in Conyngstrete and ther put it to sale and not to go up and doune hawkyng it on theyr horsez in the open strettez in estopyng and disturbyng of the Kyngs people, and that all thei that hase solded theyr malt or corn or it come to this Citie that thei bryng it to this Citie on the Monday, Wednesday or Friday and not on the usual market dayes; and that all those that bryngs butter, chese, eggez, pyggeze, geeseze, henneze, caponz, chekyng or any other vitals or pultre, that thei have and bryng it unto Thursday market and ther put it to sale and not on the Pavement ne in any other place or strete; (fo. 88b) and that all those that bryngs swyn to this Citie to selle that thei have the said swyn unto Peesholme and ther kep and selle theym; and that no maner person whilk bryngeth corn, malt, vitale, pultre or any other maner thyng to this Citie fest or tye theyr horsez at the pyllory or nere therby ne in no open strete or layne of this Citie.

fo. 89.

**The City seeks support for their case against
St. Mary's Abbey.**

Reception of body of Archbishop Rotherham.

2 June 15 Henry 7 (1500). *Present*—William Nelson, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 15 of the xxiv.

A copy of a bill of peticcion unto the Kyngs highnes and an othre lettre mysyve to his Highnes and of diverse lettrez myssive to my lord Cardinal, my lord the duke of York, the byschop of Durham, Sir Raynold Bray and to Maister Nykez, besechyng thaim to be tender lords and maisters unto this Citie in the matere of traverse anenst Saynt Mary abbey for the ground without Bothome wer opynly rede. After whiche redyng it was agreed that they shuld be maid up clene and that Maister Recorder with iiij horsez with hym the morn next after Corpus Christi day shuld ryde unto the Kyngs highnez with the above said wryttyngs.

It was agreed that my lord Maier, my maisters his brether and the xxiiij in violet to morn at Mekillith Barre shall mete the corps of the most reverend fader in God my lord Thomas¹ late

¹ Thomas Rotherham died of plague at Cawood and was buried in York Minster.

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Archebischof of York, late discessed, whose corps comyng hider to his beryall.

fo. 89b.

Letters from and to Sir William Conyers.

15 June 15 Henry 7 (1500). *Present*—William Nelson, Mayor, 6 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 13 of the xxiv.

To the Mayre of York for his tyme.

Maister Maier, I understand ye and your officers hase arrested William Tankerd bote of Burghbrigge for what mater as yet I knawe not. I praye God that your poure neghurs of the Citie fare never the warse for your hasty arrest of your neghurs goods, for if it please and content your mynd nowe to put your neghurs to trouble at this tyme, your tyme in the office whiche ye occupie nowe is bot schort. I wald ye take no sample by a carle,¹ your neighbour, John Metcalf, which ye knawe is comen lightly up and of smale substance and wilbe maid glade shortly to knawe his neghours for his better. I wald not ye troubled my neghours in your tyme, for if ye do, I assure you, your wynnynge shalbe smale without profett. Ye have troubled two of my servaunts. John Tristram and Jenkyng Hewbank of Richemond for such maters as ye (fo. 90) please at this tyme. I trust ye wull trouble thaym nor William Tankerd nor non of my neghours nowe no ferther and take no sampull by John Metcalff, whiche wilbe thanked for his good will accordyng to his deservyng. My servaunt hath credence if ye list here it.

W^m Conyers, K.

To the right wurshipfull Sir William Conyers Knyght.

Right wurshipfull Sir I recomend me unto you, certifieng you I receyved your writtyng to me delivered yesternyght by your servaunt, George Parkynson, wher in ye writt ye knawe not for what matters William Tankerd bote is arrest; Sir, the cause is I trust resonable, whiche is for that the said bote hath gretly broken one of the archez of the brigge whiche can not be amended without gret cost and charge. And wher ye pray God my poure neghours shuld not fayre the warse for my hasty arrest I pray you for any displeasour anenst me dele with theym as right reason requireth for I shall dele non otherwise with yours. And wher ye writt that I shuld trouble two of your servaunts, John Tritram and Jenkyn Hewbank, Sir, the awner of the ship that theyr goods ar in whiche is a franchest man hath don certayn offensez contrary to the ordinance of this Citie and therfor I stoped the ship and so I trouble thaym not. And wher ye writte that my brother John Metcalfe, Alderman, shuld be a carle Sir, I and my Brether and all this Citie knaweth that he wurshipfully hath been and born the charge as the Kyngs lieutenant within this Citie; and

¹ Carle; a base fellow.

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wher as ye thret and manace me and my (*fo. 90b*) said brother Metcalf I gretly mervele ye so do; I trust ye will not pursue ne execute your sayng in that behalf, for if I knew ye wold, I shuld shewe theym forther wher it shuld not be to your pleasour, as God knoweth, who preserve you.

From York the morn after Trenite Sondag.

fo. 90b. **Proposal for settling the quarrel with St. Mary's Abbey.**

20 June, 15 Hen. 7 (1500). *Present*—William Nelson, Mayor, Brian Palmes, Recorder, 6 of the xii, 1 Sheriff, 11 of the xxiv.

It was shewed by my lord Maier howe that Maister Hugh Trotter, Tresorer of the Mynstere, Maister Robert of Eschecker, hath maid grete instaunce and labor unto my said lord the Mayer, his Brethern, and to Maister Recorder that allmaner maters of traverse dependyng betwix the reverend fader in God the bischop of Carlill, nowe abbot of Saynt Mary Abbey and convent of the same on the one partie and this Citie on the other partie as well (*fo. 91*) of and for the beldyng of a newe towre and enclosure of a certayn ground betwixe the rounde towre at Saynt Mary gate end and Bothome barre as all other maters myght be put in treate and compromyse of indeferent persons. After whiche mocion and shewyng it was agreed that all the said maters shuld be compromytte to the award and arbitrament of Robert Constable, sergiaunt at the Kyngs lawez, and William Fayreffaxe, lerned man in the same lawe, unto michelmes next comyng; and if they can not agree by that tyme, then to abid the . . . of my lord Somers, the Kyngs cheff juge betwix that and Cristenmese the next ensuyng, as in an paupir therof more at large dothe appere as here after ensuyth:—

Be it had in mynd that wher as diverse variaunses, quarels and debates wer meved and dependyng betwixt the reverent fader in God, William, Bisshop of Karlill, abbot of the monasterie of our Lady nere the citie of York and the convent of the same of the oon partie, and the right wurshipfull William Nelson, Maire of the said Citie of York and the hole bodie of the same on the other partie, for and opon a grownd lieng without Bothome Barre betwixt the said Barre and the great towre at Saynt Marie gait end, the which grownd the said reverent fader in God clamyth to have unto hym and his monasterie in severaltie; by the mean, mediacion and desire of Maister Martyn Colyns, Chaunter of the church of York, Hugh Trotter, Tresaurer of the same, Robert Willyngton, chanon of the same and John Cutte, generall reseyvour of the Kyngs ducherie of Lancastre (*fo. 91b*) the said right reverent fader in God for hym and his convent, the Maire for hym and the said bodie of the Citie of Yorke ar agreed that Robert Constable, serjant of lawe, and William Farefax, lerned man in the Kyngs

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lawe, indeferently chosen by theym bothe shall se the evidence of bothe parties and at the next Assice of Lammes take to them William Kebill, the Kyngs justice of Assice at Yorke, to giff to them counsell indeferently and suche jugement, lande decre and arbitrement as the said Robert and William by their awne lernyng or by advise and counsell of the said William Kebill to theym indeferently taken shall gyve in writyng befor the fest of Saint Mychaell tharchangell next comyng after daie of this present writyng, the said parties shall kepe, obey and performe upon their wurshippes, and if the said Robert and William gyve no lande jugement, decre and arbitrement befor the fest of Saint Michael thearchangell next comyng then the said parties by this presents promysse to abyde the lande jugement etc of Maister Fynees, the Kyngs cheiff juge, he to giff in writtyng his lande jugement etc. before the feest of Saint Martyn in wynter then next comyng. It is also agreed that the said reverent fader in God and convent shall forbere almaner of beldyng, paylyng, occupieng the said ground unto the feest of Saynt Martyn in wynter then next comyng—except the said Robert and William or the said Maister Fyness the Kyngs chieff juge giff a full lande jugement etc. (*fo.* 92) in the premysez before the said fest of Saint Martyn Wherof aswell the said right reverent fader in God with the assent and consent of the convent of Saint Marie Abbey as the right wurshipfull William Nelson, Mair of York, with assent and consent of hole bodie and comonaltie of the same assigned this paupir with thair awne signe manuel. Yeven at York the xxij day of Juny xv Henry VII

fo. 92b. **Putting a stop to uncharitable words among the
City Councillors.**

21 June 15 Henry VII (1500). *Present*—William Nelson, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 16 of the xxiv.

An auncient ordinaunce that whoso is rebell or disobedient unto the Maier was openly rede, and after it was ordeyned that if any Alderman or any other of the xxiiij beyng in the presence of the Maier for the tyme beyng at any counseill, procession or any other assemble, havynge any unsyttyng words, langage, or wordez callyng another fals, untrewe, or thoughtyng¹ hym or makyng comparyson with his brother or felowe, he that so useth any suche langage or wordes to forfett and lese x^{li} to the comon wele of this Citie.

fo. 93. **Alleged Assault.**

23 June 15 Hen. VII (1500).

The same day a gret noyse and clamour came to my lord Maier howe that Cristofer Ughthred, Esquyer, that same day with

¹ Thoughting seems to mean "making him feel insignificant."

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force and armez had entred the house of William Asby, cociticene of this Citie, and hym sore hurt to the gret joupertie of his liff and further the said Cristofer with his iij servauntes were brought tofore my said lord and presence and by theyr hole assent comyt to prison unto the tyme it can be perfutely knawen wheder the said William Asby shall liff.

fo. 93b. **No lead weighed at Boroughbridge to be carried on
the Ouse by York Citizens.**

11 July 15 Henry VII (1500). *Present*—William Nelson Mayor, 6 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 15 of the xxiv.

It was agreed that no fraunchest man or person of this Citie from hensfurth take in to his shyp, kele or bote any leed whiche was weed at Burghbrigge and cary it unto Hull or to any other place apon payn of xl^s. And if that any estraunger or foreyn take into his ship, kele or bote any suche lede weed at Burbrigge then no fraunchest person of this Citie shall lay or put no lede merchanddysez or other goods in any suche estraunger ship, kele or bote but outerly banyshe theym and theyr goods therfro apon payn of xx^s.

fo. 98. **The City shows its evidence for the disputed ground
in Bootham.**

23 October 16 Henry VII (1500). *Present*—William Nelson, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 10 of the xxiv.

It is agreed that Maister Lancaster, Maister Giliot and Maister Recorder shal go unto my lord of Carlill and gyff hym thankez in that it pleased hym to shewe my lord Maier and theym suche writtyng as he hath concernynge the ground betwix Bothome bar and the round towre at Saynt Marygate end, and pray hym that it woll please hym to let theym have (*fo. 99b*) in knowlege whom, when and wheder he please to send to see and here the wryttyng and evydence of this Citie concernyng the title of the same ground. To whome he answered and said he shuld send the Prior of that monastery and other of his councell. And so after, the said Prior, William Fayrfax and Thomas Fayrfax as of councell, with the Prior came unto Ouse brigge and ther Maister Recorder tofore my lord Maier, diverse of his Brether and of the xxiiij shewed theym many and diverse writtyngs by whiche as he thought that Saynt Mary Abbey had no right to occupie or enclose the said ground. After whiche shewyng the said Prior and his councell departed and said they wold shewe my lord of Carlill at his comyng from the Kyngs highnes as they had hard and seen.

fo. 99. **An Alderman dismissed from Office.**

10 November, 16 Henry VII (1500). *Present*—William Nelson, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 10 of the xxiiij.

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Assembled upon Ouse brygge for diverse gret and urgent causes concernyng the publike well of this Citie emongest other it was moved howe that Maister Thomas Scotton, Alderman, by many yerez tofore passed hath stand in the rome and lieu of an Alderman and hath ben and yet contenueth in gret sekenez and diseasez so that he hath not giffen his ayde, assistance and attendaunce as he awght to do in that rome, and as far as thei can conceyve and understand non amendement or remide, recoverie is likly in hym. After whiche mocion, Robert Plompton, the comon clerk, and Humfrey Maners the Maiers esquier at the mayce, wer called to fore the said presence, and then my lord Maier by thassent and consent of the same presence gaff theym in commaundement to go unto the said Maister Thomas Scotton and shewe hym on his and his brether behalves that for so myche as he hase long stand an Alderman and brother to theym and not don his duete in that rome after his othe maid in that behalf; wherfor thei thought he shuld ather come and do his duete and gif his attendaunce or to discharge hymself of the said rome or els he for his ease and respite therof to pay suche fyne as my lord and his brether wold put unto hym. With the whiche message the said Robert and Humfrey went unto the mansion and dwellyng place of the said Maister Thomas Scotton and it shewed unto hym. Wherunto he gaff answer and said that he heretofore had been twise elect and put in the rome of an Alderman and born the charge therof in every thyng after duete and power, and to say that he wald discharge himself that wald he never do, and if it pleased Maister Maier and his Brether to let hym conteneue in the same rome he wald bere suche reasonable fyn for his ease in that behalf as thei wald put hym to apon theyr conscience. (99b) The whiche answer the said Robert and Humfrey went and shewed unto my said lord Maier and his Brether ther present. After whiche shewyng by good deliberacion it was agreed that the said Maister Thomas Scotton shuld furthwith pay and lay down xx mark of lafull money of Yngland toward the comon well of this Citie and then he to stand still in the rome of an Alderman and to take ease of giffeng any attendaunce, or elles he to be discharged incontenent of his said rome. The which agreement the said Robert and Humfrey wer commaunded to go and shewe unto the said Maister Scotton. And thei so dyd, to whome the said Maister Scotton said he as now was not purved of so myche mony within hym and yf he wer he wold not giff it for no suche thyng ne in that behalf. The whiche sayngs and answer the said Robert and Humfrey come agayn and shewed the same unto my lord Maier and presence, after whiche shewyng it was agreed by a hole assent in so myche as the said Maister Th. Scotton refuseth to pay the said some of xx marks that he incontenent shuld be discharged of the rome of an Alderman.

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fo. 100b.

Further enclosure of land in Bootham.

15 December 16 Henry VII (1500). *Present*—William Nelson, Mayor, 10 of the xij, 10 of the xxiiij.

It was long debated what was to be don in the matere of traverse betwix this Citie on the oone partie and Saynt Mary Abbey on the other partie for the ground without Bothome; and nowe of late my lord of Carlill beyng from home the Prior of Saynt Mary Abbey of newe hath maid enclousour upon the same ground. After whiche long communicacon it was determyned that enchevyng of all riotts or enconvenients that may ensewe unto the displeasour of the Kyngs highnez that the said enclousour shall rest styll unto the comyng home of my said lord of Carlill; and then Maister Recorder, Maister Gilliot and William Whyte, Aldermen, shall go unto his lordship and pray hym that he will let theym knawe if it be his will that the said enclousour was maid nowe or no.

To whome the said lord shewed it was his will and mynd that it was maid as it is bot he desireth to have respyte to comon with his counsell lerned therin and thei shuld have ferther answer by tweltemez next.

fo. 101

The Cartwrights and the Carpenters.

15 December 16 Henry VII (1500).

Mem. that wher in the tyme of the marialtie of the right wurshipfull Sir Richard York, then Maier of the Citie of York, emong other thyngs it was enacted and established that every maister cartwright within the Citie and suburbs of the same that haith and taketh apprentice shuld yerely pay for every apprentice to the bryngyng furth of the pageant¹ of carpenters iiij^d as in the said ordinaunce more at large doth appere, for payment wherof many and gret inconvenients and troublez haith ben likely to afallen and ensewed betwix the said carpenters on the one partie and the cartwrights on the other partie, of, in and upon the said variaunces and troublez the said parties the (*blank*) day of (*blank*) personally present in the counceill chambre upon Ousebrigge compromytt theym and ther successours in and upon the premysses in every thyng to stand and fulfyll and observe the ordinaunce, award and arbitrament of the said Maier, the which by ryppe comunicacions had betwix the said parties for confirmacon of the peace, luffe and amyte betwix the said parties and in eschewyng of inconvenients that therin myght ensew, by gud deliberacon, assent and consent of the said parties ordayned, awarded, demed in maner and forme ensuyng.

(fo. 101b). That is to say, the master cartwrights of the said Cite that now ar and hereafter shalbe yerely before the fest of

¹ See *York Memorandum Book*, vol. II, p. 193.

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Corpus Christi shall pay and content unto the pagiaunt maisters of the carpenters vj^d and every apprentice of the cartwryghts to be free for anything payng toward the bryngyng furth of the said pagiaunt Also the said Mair ordeyned and demed that the said carpenters shall not vex, trouble ne distreyn the said cartwryghts nor apprenticez for any other yerely charge toward the bryngyng furth of ther pagiaunt bot in maner and forme abovesaid and every journieman iiij^d. And the cartwryghts to make iiij new wheles to the said pagiaunt and yerely vj^d as is above said and then the said cartwryghts to be discharged of al maner other yerely charges as torchez, reparaconz of ther pagiaunt, bryngyng furth therof or any other maner yerely charge longyng to the pagiaunt or torchez.

(fo. 102). The same day it was ennacted that no person foreyn shalbe enfraunchesed bot thei to pay at theyr entre vj^s viij^d and yerely after xl^d at the lest.

fo. 102b.

Shortcomings of a Sheriff.

16 Dec. 16 Henry VII (1500). *Present*—William Nelson, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 12 of the xxiiij.

George Essex and Thomase Bankhouse, then Shireffs of this Citie, wer sent for; and then and ther it was object unto the said George that wher for the honour and wurship of this Citie it hathe ben used that the Shireffs, on the day of theyr rydyng,¹ ather of theym to have one or two folowers after hym, and the said George that day had non; and also it hath ben used the elder Shireff that day to fynd table clothez and towels and al other thyng necessary for the high table, and the same day ther wanted double towels. And wher the comonon officers as the Chamberleyns, Comon Clerk and the Mayrez sergiaunts hath ben yerely desired and bedyn to the Shireffs fest and this yere wer not beden. And also that by an auncient ordinaunce it is ordeyned that no Shireff of this Citie shall not go openly in the strete without one beryng a mayce tofore hym upon payn of forfeittour of x^{li} and this day it was object unto the said George had gon from his awn house on the Pavement unto Henry Bluther, vynter, in Pettergate on Saynt Andrewegate corner not havynge any maice born to fore hym, upon al whiche objecons he couth not excuse hym; it was determyned that the said George for his said mysbyhaviours shall lay down tofore my lord Maier and Chamberleyns v^{li} and therof to be pardoned xx^s and more if my lord Maier please.

fo. 104.

The Citizens want to pull down the Bootham enclosures.

15 January 16 Henry VII (1500-01). *Present*—William Nelson, Mayor, 11 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 18 of the xxiiij.

¹ For an account of the Sheriff's riding see Drake, *Eboracum*, p. 196.

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The Comons the same day put a bill of peticon unto the said Maier and presence as hereafter ensuyth.

Humbly sheweth and compleneth unto your lordship and maisterships your poure servaunts and cociticins the sersours in the name of the hole Comons of this Citie that wher your lordship yesterday shewed us a bill of compleynt agaynst the Abbot and Convent of Saynt Mary Abbey we beseche you that one maister that shalbe our Mayre and succed after you by your alles assent with effect may present and pursue the said bill unto the Kyngs highnes and the lords of his most noble counceill so that the said Abbot and Convent may have in commaundement from his Highnes to take down that pale and toure whiche of late thei agayn right have bylded without Bothome Barre or elles that his Highnes will take no displeasour with you nor us if we pull theym down and after occupie that ground accordyng to his right and also the right of this Citie; and that your lordship in your tyme in peaceable wyse open the gategz of the inclossour therof, so that the Comons of this Citie may have theyr entre and assure into the said ground or elles we can chese no Maier that day. The whiche peticon was openly rede and after the said presence desired (*fo. 104b*) the sersours to giff in a bill of iij eslitte of the Mayer. And my lord the Maier that yet is and the Maier that shalbe and al the said presence with effect shall persewe unto the Kyngs good grace for due reformacon of the premysez; and if his grace by Witsonday next comyng take no direcon ne giff theym none otherwise in commaundement therin then thei shall putto theyr hands and help to pull downe the said pale and inclousour.

*fo. 106.***The Bounds of York City.¹**

Viewed 7 October 16 Henry VII (1500). (Translated from the Latin).

Begining at Bampton Well thence along the bank of the Ouse to the east end of a certain bawke, which leads from a meadow on the bank of the Ouse to a certain cross called Haday Crosse, near to Staford Crose, at the west end of the same bawke, in the high way which leads to Bischopthorp, and so along a certain lane called Bustard layne and so as far as the pasture of Knaysmyre²

¹ Bounds of York taken at different dates are to be found in *York Memorandum Book*, vol. 1, p. 21; in Drake, *Eboracum*, p. 244. I have printed these bounds here because they differ in some details from the others. Staffords Cross on Bishopthorpe road was evidently a memorial to Sir Ralph Stafford killed in a duel here with Sir John Holland in 1385; see Raine; *York; Historic Towns Series*, p. 77. The doubt expressed by some as regards the city boundaries at Dringhouses is mentioned nowhere else. York Moor is here distinguished from Hob Moor; the former being the part near to the Tadcaster Road.

² *Knaysmyre*. Knavesmire, the modern spelling, is generally explained as being so named because the Gallows stood here, but the letter "v" in the name does not occur before 1567.

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on the east side of the same pasture as far as the ancient ditch begining at the west part of a certain close formerly belonging to Miles Willesthopp in Bustardthorp, and so along the said ancient ditch as far as a stone cross at the west end of the village of Dringhouse and so along a certain lane there as far as a certain wooden bridge to the far side of a certain stream which comes from Drynghousses Mose and so on the far side of the said stream along the north bank of the same stream as far as the Yorks More. At this point it was said by several present that they were going beyond the bounds of the city of York, that the boundary ran from Bustardlayn to the east end of Dringhousez, and so straight over the land and property of the Prioress of Clementthorp as far as the west end of Yorks More, and so going round the said More as far as the outegange which leads to Obmore, and so by the ditch of the moor as far as a certain stone bridge at the east end of the village of Holegate going along the said stream on the west side of the same as far as the Fleytebrig between the Bischopfeld and a certain meadow on the bank of the Ouse, and so from the water of Ouse on the north side as far as a certain wooden footbridge in the Fetesenge, otherwise called Litilleng, so ascending along a ditch and a mere near to the Spetell well along a road near to the windmill of the Abbot of Blessed Mary, and so in the highway which leads from York to Clifton, and thence as far as the Maude-layn Spitell in the same highway, and thus as far as the windmill belonging to William Yngleby, knight, formerly belonging to John Roucliff, called Lady Miln, and thence along a road as far as the gallows of the Abbot of Blessed Mary aforesaid, and there was from ancient times a watergate in the outegang which leads to the forest of Galtres, as far as the high way which leads from Huntyngh-ton as far as a certain stone cross called Whisestane Cross on Estil-bryg, and so past the great stone as far as the water of Fosse thence beyond the Fosse near the water mill of the Abbot of Blessed Mary aforesaid going as far as a certain place on Heworth More where a little stone cross stands on the south side of the highway which leads to Stokton, and thence to a certain stone near the west end of the village of Heworth on the moor which is common pasture for all citizens of York, and thence as far as the Theefbrigg and so along a certain road crossing the middle of Tanghall Greyn as far as a wooden cross in the road which leads to Oswaldwick, (*fo. 106b*) and thence returning as far as the wind mill of the Hospital of Saint Nicholas, and thence crossing a certain road which leads from the said mill between the land of St. Nicholas and the moor of Heslyngton as far as the Grene dyke near the east end of the close of the Hospital of Saint Nicholas, and thence as far as the wooden cross in the Grene Dykez near a certain place where formerly were the gallows of Saint Leonards, and thence beyond Tyle myre as far as a certain great stone in a certain ditch recently

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made by the inhabitants of Heslyngton, and so along the way out as far as a certain stone cross in the road which leads to Fulforth near Hallegarth Syke, and thus as far as Hawkes Well straight to the water of Ouse and so beyond the water of Ouse straight to the bawke which leads to Hadayl Crose.

fo. 107. **Message from the Abbot of St. Mary's.**

St Blase day 3 February 16 Henry VII (1500-1). *Present*—John Stockdale, Mayor, 11 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 13 of the xxiiij.

Geffray Frannk; Esquyer and Thomas Aglaby, gentilman, servaunts to my lord of Carlill come personally and on the behalve of the said lord shewed that he was agreeable that the matere of traverse betwix this Citie and said Mary Abbey shuld rest upon Robert Constable, sergiaunt at the lawe, and William Fayrfaxe, unto the next assise; and if thei cannot agree at the next assise then to abide the owmparage¹ of Maister William Huberd, the Kyngs attorney.

fo. 107b. **Various regulations.**

10 Feb. 16 Henry VII (1500-1). *Present*—John Stockdale, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 9 of the xxiiij.

My lord the Maier shewed howe that he for the honour of this Citie had meved diverse craftez to be all in a clothyng and he fand theym well disposed unto the said mocion.

It was agreed that every Alderman and ichon of the Comon Counseill spek not at any assemble of the same bot in his rome. And every Alderman and ilkon of the Comon Counseill have his clothyngs accordyng unto the ordinaunce and forfeittour of theyr broggez theropon provided.

It is ennacted that ther shalbe in every ward (*fo.108*) a payre stokez and certan fethers for imprisonment and punyshment of begars, vacabunds and other mysdoers within that ward; and also a hamer at every barre to thentent that (no) Scotts person take upon theym to entre and come within this Citie bot to knoke first on the barre thei come to and not to entre this Citie without licence of the Maier or wardeyn or constable of that ward upon payn of emprisonment of theyr bodies.

Item that ther shalbe a dung cart in every ward and a place assigned without the barre or postern wher al such dung as shalbe caried out of every ward shalbe layd so that husbands of the contre may come ther to and have it away.

Item it is agreed that ther shalbe a comon seale for the Citie to seale all suche cloths as shalbe maid within the same; and that every cloth be of a iiij quarters brod at the lest and xxvj yerds

¹ Owmparage; umpirage; decision.

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long; and that he that shal have the kepyng of the said seale seale no cloth bot that it be full xxvj yerds long.

fo. 110b.

The Recorder to ride to London.

The King petitioned for two fairs.

27 April 16 Henry VII (1501). *Present*—John Stockdale, Mayor, 5 of the xij, The Recorder, 2 Sheriffs, 11 of the xxiiij.

Agreed that Maister Recorder of the comons cost with iiij horsez with hym shall ryde unto the Kyngs grace with a lettre and bill of peticon and iij other lettres missyvez, that is to say, to the Duke of York, my lord Archebischop of York, the Bishop of Durham, the Bishop of Norwych and to Maister Bray, besechyng thaym to be good lords and maisters unto this Citie in the matere concernyng the ground without Bouthome.

Agreed that a bill of petition shalbe putt unto the Kyngs highnez for two fayrez to be had within this Citie for ij tymes in the yere, that is to witt, the first fayre to begyn on the Monday next after the Ascencon day and to endure viij dayez next ensuyng; and the ij^d to begyn on Saynt Luce day Evangelist and to endure other viij dayes next after ensuyng the said fest. And every person comyng to the said fayrez frely to come and go without payng of toll or murage, and thes fayrez to be gettyn toward the upholdyng of this Citie whiche is in gret ruyn and decaye.

fo. 111b.

Return of the Recorder.

Vigil of Pentecost 16 Henry VII (1501). *Present*—John Stockdale, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 14 of the xxiiij.

Maister Recorder, whiche nyght tofore come from London delivered iij lettres myssive unto my lord Maier, wherof one was from my lord Archbischof of York, the ij^d from the Bishop of Norwyche and the iij^d from Maister Bray, whiche iij lettrez were openly rede. Item Maister Recorder shewed two lettrez enclosed directed to my lord of Carlill, wherof one was sent from my lord Archbischof and the other from Maister Bray.

fo. 112.

Refusal of request from the Abbot of St. Mary's.

8 June 16 Hen VII (1501). *Present*—John Stockdale, Mayor, 6 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 11 of the xxiv.

My lord Maier shewed howe that my lord of Carlill had send unto hym for a copy of the bill of compleynt by the Citie put unto the Kyngs highnes agayn hym. It was determyned that my lord Maier shuld not send hym any copy bot my lord of Carlill to sewe to the Kyngs counseill for the copy therof.

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fo. 113. New Ordinances of the Botellers, Brogg makers and Patoners.

11 August 16 Hen VII (1501). *Present*—John Stockdale, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

It was determyned that from now furth no fraunchest person of this Citie shalbe the bisschop toller ne gedderer of the bischop duete duryng the fayer tyme yerely at Lammes.

The same day a bill of divers articulez put in by the botellers,¹ broggemakers and pateners was affirmed to be added and annexed with theyr ordinaunce as hereafter ensueth—That no maner of person from nowe furth take upon theym (113*b*) to set up and occupie in any of the said craffts bot suche as hase ben vij yerez apprentice in the same crafft and that thei be found able and connyng by the sersors of the same. And if any have ben apprentice within this Citie by viij yeres and found able by the serssours he to pay nothyng to upsett. And if any have ben apprentice by vij yeres without this Citie and found able by the serssours he to pay to upsett vj^s viij^d. And if any person whiche was never apprentice in any of the said craffts be found able by the serssours hereafter and will set up then he to pay to upset x^s

fo. 114. The King asks the Council to welcome the Scottish ambassadors.

23 August 17 Henry VII (1501). *Present*—John Stockdale, Mayor and six others.

A lettre mysyve from the Kyngs highnes direct to the Maier and his Brethern was openly rede.

By the Kyng.

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you well. And where as our derest cosin and brother the Kyng of Scots hath by his letters signified unto us howe that he entendeth to sende unto us an ambassad within breff tyme, the most reverend fader in God Tharchebischop of Glasco, Therle of Bothwell, the prothonotary of Scotland, the lord Bagony, his Tresourer, with other noble personage for the finall treatie and perfite conclusion of matrimony betwixt his cousynage and our most dere and eldest doughter, the lady Margarete, for the whiche he hath long sued unto us; we considering that this matier procedeth of the mere mocion and herty desir of our said cousin and that the same sowneth to the gret honour not oonly of us but also of this our reame and thuni-versall weell and restfulnes of the same, entend to have the said ambassadours at suche tyme as it shall fortune theym to come unto us to be honourably receyved, accompayned and conducted toward us, and also to have manerly and herty chere shewed and

¹ For ordinances of these crafts in 1471 see *York Memorandum Book*, vol. II, pp. 139-41.

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don unto theym as to soo great a matier and honourable personage doth apperteyne; wherfor we wol and disire you that when the said ambassadours shalbe at Saint Mary Abbey, adjoynyng to that our Citie of York, wher we have appointed theyr logings with the right reverend fader in God our right welbeloved counseillour, the bischop of Carlill, ye accompayned with some of your Brethern as well immediatly uppon theyr comyng thidre as after at othre conveable¹ tymes duryng their abode there do visite theym, presentyng theym with wynes, delicats and novelties suche as (*fo. 114b*) can be gotten in the contrey, offre theym your servicez and do to theym all the humanite, pleasour and chere ye can or maye, shewyng unto theym with as good and lovyng words as ye can use that for the singuler favour and love that we bere unto oure said cousin their soverane lord we have expressly commaunded you soo to do and that ye will confourme you herunto with all effect, as ye tendre our singuler pleasour.

Yeven under our signet at our Manour of Richemonte the xxvj day of July.

fo. 117b. **Letter testimonial of Richard Hammylton, cordwainer.**

Unto all trew cristen people this writtyng for to se, here or reid; we Henry Conyers of Westlathes in Cleveland, gentilman, Ric. Buk, bailiff of Sadbery in the bischoprick of Durham, Ric. Kelyngall of the same etc. sendith grettyng in God everlastyng. For the mekill as it is meretorie and medefull to wytnese trewth, and in especiall in suche thyng as (*fo. 118*) may safeguard hym that is born in England that he shall not be suspect for a Skott, therfor by this our lettre testimoniall we, all afore rehersed, certifiez and recorderz that Ric. Hammylton, the son of Andrewe Hammylton, was born in Wycliffe in Richmondshyre and cristened at the said Wicliff, and the parson of the said Wicliff and Ric. Buke was his godfaders, and Agnes Vincent, wiffe unto Christofer Vincent of Smeton, his godmodre; wherfor we pray and beseche all trew cristen people that thei woll votesave at our request and prayer aid, succour and releffe the said Ric. Hammylton wherso ever he inhabitez or abidez as a trewe Englischman born, as thei wold we did to thaym or thayres in a cauce semeable, for and the cause gretly required it we mot prese it that it is as is afore rehersed with an honest feliship of gentilmen and yomen.

Dated 18 June 1501.

fo. 119b. **Gifts to Scottish Ambassadors.**

13 October 17 Henry VII (1501). *Present*—John Stockdale, Mayor, Brian Palmes, Recorder, 4 of the xij, 12 of the xxiv.

¹ Conveable; convenable; convenient.

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It was determyned that my lord the Maier and vj Aldermen in scarlet, the Shireffs and viij of the xxiiij in cremyson shall go unto Saynt Mary Abbey and ther mete and resceyve the ambassadours of Scotland and present theym with gret pykez, swanez, bremez and tenchez, mayn bred, rede wyn and swet wyn in silver pottez, perez and a covered basyn full of gret cumfetts.

fo. 120.

xxij October 17 Henry VII (1501). *Present*—John Stockdale, Mayor, 5 of the xij, 10 of the xxiv.

A copy of a letter misyve unto the Kyngs highnese for the matere in Bothome was openly rede, whiche was thoght good and that like lettrez shuld be maid unto the Archebischof of York, the Duke of York, the bischof of Durham and Norwych and to Maister Bray.

fo. 120b.

The Bootham controversy.

9 Dec. 17 Henry VII (1501). *Present*—John Stockdale, Mayor, Brian Palmes, Recorder, 8 of the xij, 16 of the xxiv.

The Recorder shewed a copy of the direcon taken by the Kyngs counceill for the matere in Bothome and a bill from Maister Bray, the tenour wherof ensuyth :—

Michaelmas Term xvij Henry 7 before the Kings Council. Wher certayn variaunce depend between the reverend fader in God, William bischof of Carlill on that oon partie, and the Maier and Commonaltie of the Citie of York on that other partie, for a parcell of ground lieng betwene Bothame barre and the round towre at Saynt Marygate end by the Citie of York, wheroff the said bischof hath enclosed a parcell in prejudice of the right of the said Citie as it is surmytted, the whiche variaunce hath be herd and examyned byfore the Kyngs lerned counseill, and for certayne consideracons it is ordered that the said reverend fader in God shall conteneue in occupacion therin as he doth at this tyme without any more enclosyng, and the said Maier and Commonaltie to occupie in the same as thei doon at this tyme, without any enclosyng or further medlyng on eyther partie in that behalf unto the tyme that the matere be determyned by the said counseill and for the fynall end to be hade as well therin as in all other maters in variaunce betwene the said partiez. It is ferther ordered that in the 15^{mo} of Saint (fo. 121) Hillary next comyng that the said reverend fader in God by hymself or his sufficient autorite and counseill, and also the said Maier and Commonaltie by their sufficient autorite and counseill shall appere at Westminster before the said Counseill and bring before the same Counseill suche consideracions as thei been assigned to make for either partie concernyng the premysez. And therupon ferther direcion to be taken therin as right and good conscience shall requyre.

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To the Right wurshipfull the Maier, Aldermen and Citizins of the Citie of York be this delivered.

Right wurshipfull, I recomand unto you; so it is that nowe late I resceyved a letter from you by Brian Palmez, your Recorder, to whom by the same writtyng ye desired me to gyve credence; whose credence as he shewed me that ye for the favour of me ar contentyd that my nevewe, John Bray, prebendary of Fridaythorp, shuld occupie in severaltie suche closors at the Taynghall as my lord of Norwyche occupied in severaltie by your graunt. Wherfor I hertely thank you and for your kyndnes and good mynds ye shalbe assured to have me your frend to do for you at your reasonable desire with the help of Jesu, who preserve you.

Written at Westminster the last day of Novembre

Reynold Bray

It was agreed that the sealez for cloth shalbe maid and graven and every cloth that shalbe sealed ther with to be of vij quarters brod and xxiiij yerdez long at the lest.

fo. 124b.

A scarlet gown for the Recorder.

4 January 17 Henry (1501-2). *Present*—John Stockdale, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

It was agreed that Maister Recorder for his gret and diligent labour by hym maid at London for the purchessayng of the charter of the fayrez and other suyts ther concernyng the well of this Citie, of the comon cost of the same at Candelmes next comyng shall have a scarlet gown so that he bryng or send home the said charter under the Kyngs gret seale.

fo. 125.

**The conduct of the case for the city against
St. Mary's Abbey.**

15 January 17 Henry VII (1501-2). *Present*—John Stockdale, Mayor, Brian Palmer, Recorder, 11 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 16 of the xxiv.

It was agreed that Maister Thomas Gray, Alderman, Maister Recorder, an a Chamberleyn with theym of the comon costs of this Citie shall ride up to London next terme ther to persue and answer the matere of traverse betwix this Citie and Seynt Mary Abbey, And wher my lord of Carlil meved that the said matere myght be put in compromyse of ij lords spirituall and ij lords tomperall it was determyned and answerd that the said matere shuld abid the determynacon of the Kyngs highnes and his most noble counseill only and of non other. And therupon Maister Gray and Maister Recorder under the comon seale to have autorite in writtyng to abid and take suche direcon and ordinaunce as it shall happyn to be maid by his said highnes and his most noble counseill.

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*fo. 124b.***The record of a Mayoralty.**

Mem. that in the tyme of mairaltie of the right wurshipfull Sir, John Stokdale, late Maier of this wurshipful Citie.

Ther was newe maid in every ward a payre of stokez and divers fethers for the punycion vacabunds, beggars and other mysdoers.

Item every crafft was put in a clothyng and ordered howe thei shall go in procession at Corpus Cristenmes and at all other tyme of assembly.

Item a pece of the Citie wall¹ of the lengh of C fote betwix Walmegate and the water of Fosse was anewe maid out of the ground, and another pece ther of di. c fote long taken down and newe set up agayn.

Item the pavement in the marketsted called the Pavement and the yren grate there newe maid and survied.

Item the pavement upon Ouse brigge newe maid and the chanell set in the myddward of the same.

Item the weghtez for weyng of lede at the comon crane newe maid of brase.

Item the ymage of Ebrauk² whiche stode in the west end of Saynt Saviorgate was taken down, newe maid and transposed from thens and set up at eest end of the chapell at the Comon Hall.

Item the mayce tofore the Maier newe maid with a diademe.

Item ij fayrez nowe purchassed yerely to endure within this Citie and suburbs of the same and ather of theym to endure vij dayez (*fo. 125*).

Item the sealez of clothe that goeth over see furth of this Citie newe maid.

Item the watteryng place and the sewer in Knaysmyre newe clensed.

Item that he caused to be broght to the Chambre a gonne and diverse gonnez chambre

Item that he gate and purchassed the copy of the perambulacon of the forest of Galtrese (*fo. 118b*).

Item a commaundement from the Kyngs highnes by thadvyce of his most noble counseill directed to the Bischop of Carlill beyng abbot of Saynt Mary Abbey and to the convent of the same to surcesse of any further palyng or enclosyng of a parcell of ground lieng from Bouthom barre unto the round towre at Saynt Marygate end.

¹ This refers to part of the walls between Walmgate Bar and the Red Tower.

² Image of Ebrauk. This was, on the destruction of the chapel, set up on Bootham bar, whence the last surviving fragment of it was removed some years ago.

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fo. 126b. **Heavy fees to be paid for the grant of two new fairs.**

7 February 17 Henry VII (1501-2). *Present*—Richard Thornton, Mayor, 6 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 15 of the xxiv.

My lord Maier shewed the Kyngs lettrez patents for two fayrez yerely hereafter to be had within this Citie. Also he shewed howe the sealyng of the same wald cost myche more mony then thei knewe before, for wher the Kyng had graunt theym free without any thyng payng for sealyng therof, my lord Chaunceller wold not let theym passe without payng for sealyng of the same, bysyd all other fees whiche wold cost this Citie . . .¹¹¹ and more. It was agreed that my lord Maier shuld semble the Comons and meve theym what every crafft or occupacon wold giff more then thei have giffen toward the said costs.

Item a lettre from the Kyngs grace with right gret thanks for the chere and present maid unto the Scotts, desiryng to make theym semblable chere in theyr comyng homeward.

fo. 127. **Proclamation of the new fairs.**

25 Feb. 17 Henry VII (1501-2). *Present*—Richard Thornton, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 15 of the xxiv.

It was determyned that the two fayrez shalbe proclamed at Malton, Scardburgh, Beverley, Hull, Hedon, Doncastre, Rotheram, Pountfrete, Wakefeld, Halyfaxe, Ledez, Skypton, Kendall, Richmond, Bedale, Northallerton, Ripon, Gisburgh, Helmesley, Pykeryng and other places.

fo. 127b. **Order in the Bootham case.**

Item maister Recorder and maister Gray, whiche had ben at London for the matier of traverse betwix this Citie and Saynt Mary Abbey shewed howe that it was ordered by the Kyngs counseill that the said matier ather to abid the reule of the Bischop of Wynchestre, ij of the Kyngs counseill and two Jugez, or ellez to sewe at the comon lawe.

fo. 128b. **The building of Fishergate Postern.**

10 March 17 Henry VII (1501-2). *Present*—Richard Thornton, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 14 of the xxiv.

It was determyned that ther shalbe a substanciall posterne maid at Fyschergate,² whiche nowe is closed up, an by reason therof aswell the stretts and beldyngs within the wallez as without ar clerly decayed and gon down.

¹ blank in MS.

² This entry shows that Fishergate Postern was built after the destruction of Fishergate bar by the rebels, when the only remaining entry into that part of York was through Walmgate bar.

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fo. 129.

Law cases between citizens.

15 March 17 Henry VII (1501-2). *Present*—Richard Thornton, Mayor, 6 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

It was determyned by an hole assent fermely hereafter to be observed that if ther be any dette, dewte, trespass, offense or any other cause of grieff hereafter appyn betwix any of the xij, xxiiij or betwix any other fraunchest men shall not from hensfurth compleyn to the Kyngs grace or to any lord or other person nor sew any court at London or any other place tofore al suche cause and matere be shewed to the Maier for the tyme beyng, and by the Maier and his counseill agreed and determyned within the space of xl dayes next after that it be shewed to the Maier. And if ther be non agreement ne dirrecon taken therin by the Maier and his counseill within the said xl dayes then the partie greved to have licence of the Maier to sewe at the common lawe accordyng to the Kyngs charters. And if any Alderman do contrary to this ordinaunce at any tyme hereafter to forfeit and lese towards the common well of this Citie xxli; and if any of the xxiiij do the contrary to forfeit x^{li}; and if any other fraunchest person do the contrary to forfeit xl^s.

fo. 129b.

St. Mary's Abbey.**Enfranchisement.****Letter from Sir Richard Cholmley.**

9 April 17 Henry VII (1502). *Present*—Richard Thornton, Mayor, Brian Palmes, Recorder, 24 Others.

It was thought that for somyche as Maister Humfrey Conesby, the Kyngs Justice of Assise hath meved that my lord of Carlill myght have the ground without Bouthom barre wher pale nowe stands and lese yerely a certen somme, or elles to giff a grete some in hand and to have it to the Abbey for ever, or elles to abid the determynacon of the common lawe, after whiche mocion it was determyned that my lord Maier shuld answer the said Justice that he had spoken with his brether and counseill which wold not be agreable to take any rent or other thyng for this Citie right in the said ground bot shewe the said Justice that he, his brether and comon counseill ar agreed that if it wold please the Kyngs highnes to call unto his presence the Duke of York, his son, thei wald beseche his grace to take the said matier of traverse in examynacon tofore theym and what direcon as the Kyngs highnes and my said lord of York taketh and ordereth therin thei shalbe redy to abid and fulfill.

(fo. 130). Item it is determyned that wher aforetyme it hath ben used that such persons as hath ben apprenticez within this Citie and al other estraungeours wer enfraunchesed at like some; this day it ennacted that all suche persons as hath ben apprentice within this Citie or suburbs and well, treuly fulfilled his apprentice

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shall be enfraunchessed and pay xx^s within the first yere and therfor to fynd ij suertiez therfor; and every other person, foreyn and estraungeour, willyng to bee enfraunchest to pay xl^s at the lest and therfor to fynd ij sufficient suertiez to pay it within the first yere. And al free persons childe to be enfraunchessed for xij^d as hath ben accustomed. And if any Alderman or any of the Comon Counseill that in the Comon Counseill assembled or tofore the Maier and Chamberleyns speketh or treteth for any person contrary to the comon well of this Citie to forfet at every tyme xl^s. And what Maier hereafter as brekith and kepeth not this ordinaunce tofore specified in every article and leveeth not the penaltiez above said to forfet of his fee of thoffice of Marialtie x^{li}.

Item it (is) ordeyned that all alienz, comon servauntez, as porters, sledman, waterleders, pyners of the crane and suche other to dwell and inhabitt upon the comon lifflod from Witsonday next comyng apon payn of discharge.

Item, a lettre misyve from Sir Ric. Chomley, knyht, was delivered unto my lord Maier in his awn place by the Peter baylly and other. My lord Maier, on my right loufyng maner I recomend me unto your lordship; and where it is so that ye distreyn and troobills the (*fo. 130b*) tenaunts and inhabitaunts in Holgate, wherof I am stuerd, for occupieng of theyr comon in a mowre nere Yorke wherof the said tenaunts hath ben seassed of pesable the tyme out of mynd unto nowe of late; I pray you, Sir, that ye will suffre the said tenauntez to occupie an enjoye the said comon accordyng your agrement and myn at our last beyng togedder unto suche tyme that hit be reasonable shewyd and determyned indeferently by lerned men why the said tenaunts shuld be avoided and put from occupieng of theyr said comon. Your assured louffer Richard Chomley knyght. After sight wherof the said my lord Maier answerd unto the Petre bailly and the others that come with hym that he wold not lett to distreyn theym of Holgate or any other that put any catell on Yorks more bot the citicins of York for he knewe wel non had any right therto bot only the Citie of York.

*fo. 131.***The two new Fairs.**

30 April 17 Henry VII (1502). *Present*—Richard Thornton, Mayor, Brian Palmes, Recorder, 8 of the xii, 1 Sheriff, 15 of the xxiv.

The first fayre to begyn on the monday next after the Ascencion day and that day and the morn on tuesday next after the nowte and horse fayre to be kept; that is to say, all maner nowte¹ as fatte nowte, drapez or yong stote to be brought into Fyschergate and ther to be put to sale. And al ryden horsez and staggez to be brought in to the strete without Walmgate barre and

¹ Nowte; cattle. The old name of the present George street was Nowte-gate.

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ther to be put to sale. And almaner shep to be brought unto Heworth and ther put to sale within the said two dayes.

And after the said two dayes the clothe fayre and allmaner goods, ware and merchandisez to be brought and put to sale in the stretes and placez ensuyng.

First that almaner fyner clothe and cuttyng cloth to be brought unto the Comon Hall and ther put to sale.

And all cloth that cometh from Ledez, Wakefeld, Halifax, Bradford and thos partiez to be brought and sett in the strete from the Comon Hall up toward Stayngate and ther put to sale.

And all clothe that cometh from Kendall, Ripon, Knarresburgh and thes parties to be brought and set in the strete from the said Comon Hall toward Conyngstret and ther put to sale.

Item that al goldsmythez, juelers, vestmentmakers, sylk women, mercers, grocers (*fo. 131b*) and hardwarmen to bryng theyr stuffe and merchaundisez into Petergate and ther from the Deane Yate downward the same strete to sell and put to sale.

Item all pewterers, foundours, potters and metelers to bryng theyr stuff into Coliergate and ther put it to sale.

Item all yrenmangers and al other yren ware to be brought into Fossegate and ther to be put to sale.

Item all hatmakers, sadylers, glovers, coupers, turnours, seveers, ropers, haysters, hemsellers and cartwrights to bryng theyr stuffs into Walmegate and ther put it to sale.

Item all coukez, pulters and sellers of ale or bere to bryng theyr stuff into Davygate and Swyngale and ther put it to sale. And that no pulter kepes theyr stuff in housez or ostryes apou payn of forfeittour of the said stuff.

Item all those that brynges any lyn cloth, hardyn cloth or suche stuff to bryng it into Patrik Pole and Jubergate and ther put it to sale and not to go haukyng about in the strets therwith upon payn of forfeittour.

Item that those that bryngs wolfe, bred, flesche, salt or other vitale to bryng it in to the Thuresday market and ther put it to sale.

Item al flechers, bowers, tapitours, bedsellers, matres makers and upholdsters to bryng theyr stuff into Gotheromgate and ther put it to sale.

Item all tanners or barkers to bryng theyr stuff in to Pesholme and ther put it to sale.

Item all shomakers to bryng theyr stuff into Saynt Saviourgate and ther put it to sale.

(*fo. 132*). It was ordeyned that the second fayre whiche shal begyn in the fest of Saynt Luce to be kept and ordered in maner and forme ensuyng; that is to say, on Saynt Luce day and on the

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morn next after the horse and nawte fayre to be kept as ensuyng enduryng by two days.

First that all riden horsez and fate nawte to be brought into the strete without Mekillith barre and ther put to sale.

Item all staggez, draper,¹ nawte and yong stote to be brought into the strete beyond Saynt James Kirke and all shep into Knayesmyre and ther put to sale.

And then after the said two dayes the clothe fayre and all maner other goods, ware and merchaundisez to be brought and put to sale in strets and placez ensuyng.²

fo. 132b.

Wardship claimed by the Crown.

16 May 17 Henry VII (1502). A lettre missyve from our soveraigne lord the Kyng directed to Maier of the Citie of York was delivered unto my lord the Maier by William Croche, servaunt unto the Bischop of Carlill, the tenour wherof ensuyth.

By the Kyng.

Trusty and wel belouffed we grete you well. And where as oone Metcalfe, Alderman of our Citie of York, whiche held of us certain lands is now passed from this uncertein liff unto Godds mercy, by reason wheroff the warde and mariage of his heire with the custodie of his land during the nonnage of the same heire justely belongeth unto us; it is so as we be enformed howe that ye by vertue of your office lately impaneled certain insufficient persons to have passed upon this matere to the hinderance of our right and interesse therin wherof we mervaile if it so be. Wherfor we woll and commaund you that insomyche as we send efftsonnez unto you our writts for the findings of an office upon the said matier ye see suche gentilmen and other hable and sufficient personnes to be empannelled as woll not spare for any favour or affeccion to present the truthe, so that thurgh your negglegence we be not defrauded of our right and interesse in the said matier as ye entend to answer in that behalve at your perill. Yeven under our signet at our manor of Grenwische the viij day of May.

fo. 133b.

Avoidance of office. Gift of spits to the City.

12 June 17 Henry VII (1502).

It was ennacted that if any fraunchest man of this Citie hereafter absent hym and his wif and go furth of this Citie at tyme of elecon of Chamberleytnship and stands as a person able to be elect Chamberleytn he to lese and forfet his fraunchesse and to pay C^s or he be agayn enfraunchessed and receyved to the libertiez of this Citie. And if any person that hase ben Chamberleytn

¹ draper; sheep or cows fatted for slaughter.

² A similar list follows to that of the first Fair, though different places in the city are chosen.

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and standeth in the ellecon of the Shereffs go furth and absent hym at tyme of the elecon of the Shereffs in like wyse to forfeit and lese his fraunchese and to pay x^{li} or he be agayn enfraunchessed

Mem. that the last day of Juny John Hoggeson, couke, otherwise called John Couk, in Conyngstrete, hath frely giffen unto the Maier and Commonaltie of this Citie iiij gret yren spyttez, wherof iiij ar round and oone square, and ilkon of theym conteneth in lenghe iiij yerdez; al whiche iiij spetts weeth an hundreth and an half and iiij pound of yren, for ever to remayn to the Maier, Aldermen, Shireffs and the xxiiij and to theyr successours in maner and forme ensuyng; that is to say, duryng the liff of the said John Couke and Alice his wiffe the said iiij yren spytts yerely the Maier for the tyme beyng to have theym from Saynt Thomas day afore Cristenmes unto Saynt William fest be don and ended, and a seven nyght at Pasche, and at all other tymes and seasons when the Maier or any Alderman, Shyreff or any of the xxiiij hath besynes and nede of theym; and when suche theyr besynes is don with theym then furthwith to bryng theym to the house of the said John and Alice duryng theyr liffez or ather of theym. And after the discesse of the said John and Alice the said iiij spittez to be had and occupied as is above said and then after to be brought unto the Chamberleyns and Comon Clerk for the tyme beyng and by theym savely (*fo.* 134) to be kept to the comon well of this Citie, so that the gildmaister of Saynt Anne gild in Saynt Martyn Kyrk in Conyngstrete and the maisters of Saynt Cristofer and George and ather of theym have the said spytts oones in the yere if they desire and requyre to borowe theym of the Maier and Chamberlayns and incontinent after theyr besynes don to bryng theym to the chambre agays ther to remayn.

fo. 134. **Reception of the Earl and Countess of Northumberland.**

13 July 17 Henry VII (1502). *Present*—Richard Thornton, Mayor, 8 of the 12, 1 Sheriff, 12 of the xxiv.

It was shewed howe that my lord of Northumbreland and my lady his wiff the satterday next comyng entende to come unto this Citie. After whiche shewyng it was determyned that my lord Maier and his brether in scarlet, the Shireffs and the xxiiij in cremysyn and diverse of the most honest Comons in a convenient array at the Trenite Kirkgarth shall mete the said lord and lady and welcome theym into this countre and present theym with ij^s in mayn bred, iiij galons rede wyn, ij galons claret, ij galons white and j galon ypocras, ij signetts and ij gret pykez and it to be send unto theym by the Chamberlayns and the Maier esquyers.

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fo. 134b.

Partridges to be kept for the King's hawking.

By the Kyng.

Trusty and welbeloved we grete you well. And forso myche as we be desirous to have patriches and other foules of waren to be cherished, reserved and kept in the contrey nere abouts that our Citie of York for our disport and pleaser with our hauks at seasons of our thidre repayre; we therfore wol and commaunde you that in the next market and dayes of the same our Citie at suche houre and tyme as most confluence of people shalbe present ye doo our proclamacon solempnely ther to be maid in suche wise as to the discrecons of you and your commone counseill shalbe thought most convenient and requisite for the cherishinge and saving of patriches and other foulez of waren abouts our Citie forsaid to thentent abovesaid. Yeven under our signet at the castell of Raglan the xxv day of August.

fo. 135.

Petitions of the Porters and Walkers.**The Mayor to feed two choir boys.**

9 September 18 Henry VII (1502). *Present*—Richard Thornton, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

A bill of petition put in by the porters was opynly rede and it was determyned that the porters ather to be rewled by theyr ordinaunce maid in the tyme of maraltie of Maister George Kirke, or to theyr ordinaunce of older auncient tyme and whiche of theym as refused so to do to be discharged for ever.

A bill of petition put in by the walkers was rede and it was agreed that an article in the said bill whiche was,—that from hensfurth no walker shall withdrawe ne lay in wede any mans cloth whiche is brought unto theym to wyrk apon payn of leesyng vj^s viij^d—to be ennacted.

It was agreed that from nowefurth every Maier for the tyme beyng shall kep ij childer at mete and drynk dayly in his house at his cost and charge to mayntyn and help to syng Our Lady messe in the chapell on Ousebrige; and the Chamberleyns of the common cost to giff the said two childer two gownes.

fo. 135b.

Grant of common land.

21 September 18 Henry VII (1502). *Present*—Richard Thornton, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 16 of the xxiv.

It was agreed that a kynsman of Maister Brayez whiche is prebendary of the Tanghall shall have close lieng on the south syde of the Tanghall so that it be opyned open Michelmes day at none, and so to stand opyn al that afternone and al the nyght next folowyng and a certayn cattell to be put in for titill of common of pasture and dryven out agayn; and so the said prebendary

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this yere to have the ettysche of the said close, and that at the request and instaunce of Maister Raynald Bray as in the lieu of a reward unto hym for to have hym good maister unto this Citie.

fo. 136.

Proposal to enclose York moor.

22 November 18 Henry VII (1502). *Present*—Richard Thornton, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 17 of the xxiv.

Agreed that my lord Maier shall call the sersours togedder and shewe howe that he and his brether ar agreable that Yorks more shalbe enclosed and desire theym of theyr good will and mynd toward the same and to meve theym whome thei thynk best to have it to ferme.

fo. 137.

New Alderman chosen.

2 December 18 Henry VII (1502). *Present*—Richard Thornton, Mayor, 9 Aldermen.

My lord Maier shewed how that for somyche as Almyghty God of his grace hath called unto his mercy the right wurshipfull Sir, John Metcalf, late Alderman of this Citie, wher one other of necessite must be elect in to his rome and place; after whiche shewyng the said presence named and elect the right discret and honest person Alan Staveley, merchaunt, to be an Alderman whiche Alan incontenent was sent for and personally come tofore the said presence and then and ther toke and maid his othe as is accustomed for an Alderman.

fo. 137b.

Sheriffs Feast and Clothing.

4 January 18 Henry VII (1502-3). *Present*—Richard Thornton, Mayor, 7 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 10 of the xxiv.

The right wurshipfull Sirs, John Lyncolne and Thomas Parkour, then Shireffs of this wurshipfull Citie whiche tofore had maid theyr cry and dyner right honerably wer sent for and toke theyr accustomed (*sic*) to the comon counseillourz of this Citie and romez of the same.

It was agreed that from nowe furth the Shireffs of this Citie that hereafter shalbe, incontenently after theyr cry and dyner maid and alowed by the Maier, Aldermen and Comon Counseill, then thei to have yerely theyr clothyng of cremysen agayn Cristenmese and all other clothyngs of murrey, violet.

fo. 138.

Taking money at the bars. Fishing in the moats.

15 January 18 Henry VII (1502-3). *Present*—Richard Thornton, Mayor, Brian Palmes, Recorder, 10 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 14 of the xxiv.

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It was determyned that from nowe furth the Maier sergiaunts shall not gedder the wityn¹ silver at the iiij barrez for lettynge of theyr attendaunce on Maier, bot that it shall be lettyn and put to iiij or mo honest persons.

It was shewed howe that Thomas del Howe, taillour, whiche in the right of his wiff hath an indenter of dymysion of a mote or dyke betwix Fyschergate barre and Walmegate barre and nowe is put therfro; it is agreed that he shall have and hold the said mote and dyke with the fyschyng of the same for the terme of yerez undispended.

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fo. 1. **Ordinances of the Smiths and Marshals.**

3 Feb Feast of St Blaise 18 Henry VII (1502-3). *Present*—Sir John Gilliot, 9 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

A byll of peticion was put upp unto my lord Maier, Aldermen and Comon Counseyll by the smythez and marshals of this Citie for diversez articulez to be added and annexed unto the ordinaunces of theyr craft whiche this day by the said presence was affirmed and for an ordinaunce ennacted. Furst, that all foreyns that hereafter shall come unto this Citie and will occupy as maister in the said craft and was never apprentice within this Citie, that the said foren shall be examyned by the sersours of the said craft for the tyme beyng and iiij maisters of the same whether he be able and connyng in the said craft or not, and if he be found able then he to pay for his entre, admysion and upset in the said craft x^s. Also that no maister of the said craft from nowe furth take any apprentice for lese yeres then vj togedder and the vijth yere to be hyred as his maister and he can agre, and what maister that doyth contrary this ordinaunce to forfet at every tyme vj^s viij^d. Also that every person as well forendre as apprentice to pay iiij^d to the craft at entre of his name into theyr boks and that every apprentice or forendre at what tyme as he is abled by the serchours and iiij men (*fo. 1b*) and shall set up and occupie as maister to gyff to the said craft ij^s to a breckfaste for levying theyr occupacion and besynes abowt.

Varlous regulations.

24 March 18 Henry VII (1503). *Present*—Sir John Gilliot, Mayor, Brian Palmes, Recorder, 10 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 12 of the xxiv.

An article in a bill put unto my lord Maier and Comon Counsaill on Saynt Blase day concernyng the pale in Bothome was

¹ Wityn silver. It is not known what this was. Witting is a North country word meaning tidings; information.

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red and after it was agreed to rest unto the Kyngs comyng and then to sewe by petition.

Item an othir article that the comon and gresse ground at Michelmes yerely to be seen by the Maier and his Brether and Comon Counsaill and the most honest Comons, to be viewed and laid open.

It was ordenyd that from hensfurth no bucher of this Citie take to ferme no grysse ground within the boundes of thes Citie.

And that no fraunchest person of this Citie from nowe furth take to ferme ne occupie no grisse ground bot from our Lady day unto Michelmes and that they kepe no ground in severaltie after Michelmes bot suche as of auncient tyme hase ben and of right awe to be severall or ells that they have licence of my lord Maier and Comon Counsaill except that ground that Maister Bray hath at Tanghall at pleasour of my lord Maice and Comon Counsaill so that no bucher have it.

It is ordeyned that non Alderman ne none of the Comon Counsaill shall have the Olde Bale ne none of the comon ground bot if they will giff as muche as any other will, and the Maier and the Chamberleyns for the tyme beyng yerely to have power to lett all maner comon ground to suche persons as will most and best giff.

Item that what person as kepith the comon crane shall have to fee bot iiij marke and no more.

Item it was agreed that the crane shalbe repard and the weghtez amended and not to be lettyn (*fo. 2*) to ferme; and that house in the crane garth shalbe newe beildid by my lord Maier and the Chamberleyns.

Item that there be no pynders ne pastur maisters bot the Maier and Chamberleyns to dryve it as hath ben accustomed.

Item from (now forth) the leese of comon bell and market be endid, it shall not be lettyn to ferme for terme of yeres bot yerely by the Maier and Chamberlayns for the tyme beyng.

Item that from nowe furth no maner person by out any office or discharge or any othir thyng under the comon seale bot if it first be moved unto the Comons and graunted by comon assent of the Comons.

Item none alien be none officer nor sersour in any craft accordyng to the auncient ordinaunce.

Item no sergiaunt ne none other officer occupie bot from yere to yere at the Maiers will.

Item that no fee be giffen as a standyng fee to any sergiaunt or any othir person fraunchest or unfraunchest unto the tyme the comon lifflode be beilded.

Item that no fraunchesed person were no connisaunce or leverey of any lord or gentilman contrary unto the statutez therappon provided.

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Item that men of Thurn, Lincoln, Northfolk and all othir placez that ar vitellers bryng good and holsome victale and to be welcome.

Item that the malt market stand accordyng to the lees for x yerez.

Item that all vacabundez, beggers and idyll persons that of late yerez ar comen out of the contre and was never enfraunchest to void the Citie by Whitsonday next apou payn of imprisonment.

fo. 2.

Innholders, Hostelries, Tanning.

9 April 18 Henry VII (1503). *Present*—Sir John Gilliot, Mayor, The Recorder, 10 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 9 of the xxiv.

It was ennacted that from nowfurth none inholder bake no horsebred within theyr (fo. 2b) housez apou payn of xl^s. And that the craft of the baxsters shall have full power to serche the howsez of every inholder and if any inholder be rebell and lett theym to make serche to forfeit the same fyne. And that no baxter kepe hostery apou payn aforsaid and that the serchours of inholders shall serch the baxsters house apou payn aforsaid.

It was ordayned that every person that kepith hostery within this Citie and suburbs to have a signe over his dore tofore the fest of the Ascencion day next apou payn of xx^s of xx horsez and x^s of x horsez or under, and if any person kepe hostery and have no signe by the said fest to forfeit the payn afor said.

Item that my lord Maier and the Chamberleyns accordyng unto the Act of Parliament to make serche of the tanns for tannyng of shep skynnez.

fo. 2b.

Unlawful Searchers.

2 May 18 Henry VII (1503). *Present*—Sir John Gilliot, Mayor, The Recorder, 8 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 10 of the xxiv.

It was agreed that my lord Maier shall call tofore hym William Staveley and Oliver Middilton and for that they toke apou theym to make serche throughtout the Citie without licence asked of my lord Maier and toke the yerde and standerd out of the Counsael Chambre without my lord Maier licence and over that they toke apou theym to make serche and wer unsworn sersours.

fo. 3.

Letter from the Mayor to the Archbishop of York.

Trouble from Boroughbridge.

Most reverend fader in God etc. humbly besechyng your good Grace to have in knowlege that where a woman of Burghbrygge in Lentyn last broght certan bakebred unto this Citie to sell, whiche bred by the officers of the same was weed after the Kyngs standerd and found defaute and kept not the Kyngs assis by farre, for whiche defawte by the Kyngs statutez she shuld have ben

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grevously punyshed and amercyd bot for pitie and neghbourhed and remitted hir punnyschment unto viij^d, chargyng hir herafter to bryng no bred bot if it kept the Kyngs assis and if she so dyd she schuld be welcome. And where of auncient tyme it haith ben accostomed within this Citie that all such persons as bryngith any maner goods or ware to sell as belongith to any craft or ocupacion within this said Citie the said persons so sellyng and utteryng any such goods to be contributary unto the same crafts or ocupacionz in such chargez as they bere and sustene in bryngyng furth of theyr pagiant at Corpus Christimesse, and nowe of late a man of Burghbrigge, servaunt unto Antony Schorthouse, Esquier, broght certan sawn bords unto this Citie to sell and the carpenters of the same Citie accordyng to the auncient custome of theyr craft toke of hym iij^d to pagiaunt money for whiche viij^d (*sic*) and iij^d nowe in comyng from the fayre at your towne of Rypon the said Antony with a certan company riotously stopped certan craftez men of this Citie my neghbourez and toke theyr horsez by the hede castyng down theyr pakkez and lodez and extorciously toke from theym such goods as he and his company pleased as in a bill of parcells of the same redy to your Grace to be shewed more planely doith appere and the same goods kepyth and reteyneth, and if any person of this Citie come to Burghbrigge he sore troubleth and vexith theym, and over that with vile and unsittyng words revyleth and manasseth me and my brethir; all whiche his extorcious and riotouse demeanour I had thoght to have shewed unto the Kyngs highnes, savyng your Grace is the Kyngs lieutenaunt and these of his most honourable Counsail in these partiez; wherfore I lowly beseche your Grace to be my good and tendre lord and that it will please your Grace to direct your honorable lettrez unto the said Antony comaundyng hym by the same to redeliver the said parcells and goods and hereafter not to trowble ne vexen the Kyngs subjets inhabityng within this Citie.

At York the xj day of May.

Your daily oratour and goostly chylde, John Gilliot, Knyght, Maier of your Citie of York.

fo. 3b.

Award between the Bakers and the Cooks.

This indentour maid the xxj day of Juny xvij Henry VII (1503) witnesseth that where by many and diverse yerez heretofore past debats, discord and variaunce haith ben dependyng betwix the craftez and ocupacions of the bakers of the Citie of York on the one partie and the cooks of the same Citie on that othir partie as well of, in and upon the payment of pagiaunt money of the watterleders and sandeleders within the said Citie as of, in and upon the payment of ferme for standyng of the said cooks pagiaunt within the pagiaunt house at the costez of the said baxsters, upon all whiche debatez, discordez and variauncez the said

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partiez of theyr awn free willez and mere mocions haith comen personally tofore the ryght wurshipfull Sir John Gilliot, knyght, and then Maier of the above said Citie, and in every behalve of the premysez haith submitted theym to obey, stand and fulfill his award and judgement in that behalve (*fo.* 4); the whiche Maier at the special request and prayer of both the said partiez takyng upon hym the charge of the said award, the day and yere above-said, after diligent and rype examinacon had betwix the said partiez awardith, ordanyth and demyth that the cookez and theyr successours for evermore from nowe furth without lettyng, contradiccion or disturbaunce of the baxsters and theyr successours yerely shall peceably perceyve, take and geddir pagiaunt silver of the waterleders and sandeleders toward the supportacion and charge of bryngyng furth of the pagiaunt of the same cookez, and that the said cooks shall yerely have sufficient and convenient roome for theyr said pagiaunt within the pagiaunt house of the baxsters with free entre and issue unto the same at every tyme reasonable and convenient, for whiche pagiaunt silver of the waterleders and sandeleders and for standyng of theyr said pagiaunt the said cooks and theyr successours shall ever more yerely hereafter on the tuysday next afore Corpus Christi day pay and delyver unto the said baxsters and theyr successours iij^s iiij^d of good and lawfull money of Yngland, and the said baxsters and theyr successours shall well and sufficiently repayre, uphold and sustene theyr said pagiaunt house so that the pagiaunt of the said cooks take no herme or hurt by any wynde or weddir for lak of reperacon to be maid by the said baxsters.¹

fo. 4b. **Arrangements for the visit of Princess Margaret.**

7 July 18 Henry VII (1503). *Present*—Sir John Gilliot, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 16 of the xxiv.

It was comoned and schewed howe that the Kyngs grace haith writtyn unto every Shereffe to giff attendaunce upon the Qwene of Scotts at the entre into theyr Shireffwyk and soo to giff his attendaunce unto she come unto the end of theyr Shyre; after whiche it was determyned that the Shireffs of this Citie in cremysyn with lx persons on horsebak in a clothyng schall mete the said Qwene at Tadcaster brigge; and they to send unto all Knyghts, Esquiers, Gentilmen and othir honest persons of Aynesty to be there at Tadcaster and attend upon the Shireffs in theyr most honest aray to receyve the said Qwene of Scotts and accompany hir unto this Citie.

It was determyned that my lord Maier, the Aldermen in scarlet on horsebak, and the xxiiij in cremysyn on fote to mete and receyve the said Qwene within Mikkyllith barr, and all

¹ See L. Toulmin Smith, *York Mystery Plays*, p. xxxvi.

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othir craftez on fote to be there in theyr clothyngs as they schalbe ordered by my lord Maier and his brethir.

It was agreed that in so muche as the said Qwene departith furth of this realme to be married unto the Kyng of Scotts and to have hir good and tendre lady unto this Citie and to have it in hir tendre and graciouse remembraunce that she shalbe presented with a coppe of silver and gilt of the valowe of xiiij^{li} vj^s x^d, a hundreth angel noblez of gold in the said pece, to be presented to hir by my lord Maier, Maister Recorder, the Aldermen and the xxiiij.

Agreed that the inhabitauntez in Ousegate schall have and kepe theyr stalls of a yerde in brede and no more and to sett no bords nor potts tofore theyr stalls and to hyng no ropez bot within theyr beildyng of theyr housez and not without.

(fo. 5) That all suche persons as haith comon bolles karez¹ within this Citie to cast theym down betwix this and Lammeg next.

That my lord of the comon costez schall send an officer unto Colyweston to knawe howe the Qwene of Scotts hase ben receyved at Northampton and othir placez and if she kepe hir gests² appoynted.

fo. 5.

Further arrangements for the royal visit.

12 July 18 Henry VII (1503). *Present*—Sir John Gilliot, Mayor, The Recorder, 10 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 14 of the xxiv.

Maister Recorder opynly rede a lettre lately sent hym from the Byshop of Norwiche from Grantham, wherby he was acertaned that the Qwene of Scotts on settyrday next ensuyng wilbe at this Citie and here abyde sonday and monday to that she have dyned, and that howe she was receyved at Northampton, Grantham and othir good townez and howe she was presented at the said townez. After whiche shewyng for as muche as the Kyng of his tendre grace gevith yerely unto this Citie lx^{li} and nowe the Qwene whiche is his eldyst daughter departeth furth of this land, for whiche consideracion it was thoght that she shalbe presented with a pece of xij^{li} xvj^s, and gold therin to the some of c angels; and my lord Maier and certan of his brethir apon sonday, aftre the advice of such lords as ar about the Qwenez grace, with the said pece and gold at hir logyng present hir, and my lord Maier or maister Recorder to have (fo. 5b) the words in tyme of presentyng. And my lord Maier with the Aldermen on horsebake in scarlet to mete the said Qwenez grace at Mikyllyth, and the xxiiij and all othir craftez on fote, and whethir may lord Maier schall bere the swerd tofore hym and where he schall have his rome and bere

¹ Bolles karez. ? Bowling alleys.

² gests; the various stages of a journey, especially of a royal progress.
N.E.D.

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the mayce to be ordered by my lord of Surrey and by the said Qwenez officers and servauntez.

Item my lord Maier bought a pece of silver and gylt for xij^{li} xvjs of maister John Stokdale, and he to be paid within xiiij dayes next after Lamez.

Mem. that the xiiij day of July xviii Henry VII (1503) Janet Burgh, widowe and mother to Sir William Burgh, late chaunterie prest of a chaunterie of Roger Marre at the awtir of Saynt Eligie in the chapell of Saynt William apou Ouse brigge come personally tofore the Maier and there delyvered the parcells ensueyng, that is to say, a chales with a patene parcell gilt, a boxe with the composicion and confirmacion of the said chaunterie, two corporaux with the casez, two olde vestaments with the albez.

fo. 5b. **The fourme and maner howe the Lady Margaret, theldist daughter of our said soveraigne lord Kyng Henre the vij, and Qwene of Scotts was receyved at the Citie of York in hir viage toward Scotland.**

Be it had in mynde that the setterday the xiiij day of July in the xviiiij yere of the regne of Kyng Henre the vij come the right highe and myghty Princes, the Lady Margaret, theldist doughter of our said soweraigne lord Kyng Henre the vij, and Qwene of Scotts, unto this Citie of York accompaned with many noble lords and ladyez, that is to say, Therle of Surrey Tresorer of England, and the Counteys his wyff, he beyng the chefe guyder of the said Princes in hir said viage, the Bischop of Norwiche, the Bishop of Murrey in Scotland, Therle of Northumbreland and the countrys his wyff, Therle of Kent, the lord Straunge, the lord Haystyns, the lord Latimer, with many othir noble lordez, knyghtez, esquiers and gentilmen with theyr accompany to the noubre of v^c persons right nobly and richely appareled, agaynst whose comyng it was ordured and devysed (*fo. 6*) by my lord Maier and his brethir Aldermen and Counsaile of the Chambre that the said Princes schuld be receyved in the most honerable wyse that they couth after theyr power, and presented as herafte ensueth. Fyrst that the Shireffs of this Citie in cremysen with an hundreth persons on horsebak in one clothyng honestly arraied schuld mete hir Grace at the midds of Tadcastre brigge and with humbly salutacion hertely welcome hir Grace in to the countie and libertiez of this Citie, and so beryng theyr wands tofore hir to giff theyr attendaunce apou hir unto she come to this Citie; and ther the right wurshipfull Sir John Gilliot, knyght of the Bath, then beyng Maier of this wurshipfull Citie, in fyne cremynsyn saten engraned, havyng a coller of gold of the Kyngs liverey about his nek, on horsebak, his saddyll of cremynsyn velvet and his horse trappour of the same with gylt bolyon¹, his foteman in grene saten with the

¹ Bolyon; a knob of metal.

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armez of the Citie and his awn armez; the Recorder and Aldermen in scarlet on horse bak, theyr sadylls covered with fyne cloth and bordered with blake velvet, theyr trappour of the same with gylt bolyon; the xxiiij in cremynsyn on fote and the Craffts and Comons honestly in theyr clothyngs on fote schuld mete hir Grace at Mikyllith barr. And soo the Maier, the Recorder and Thaldermen on horsbak standyng on the north syde the said barre a lityll space within furth maid lowly obesiaunce unto hir Grace and soo come nerre unto hir chare to stand styll the Maier hertely welcomed hir Grace sayng these words—Most noble and excellent Princes and Qwene I and my Brether with all the Commonaltie of this Citie in our most hertely wyse welcometh your Grace unto this the Kyngs Citie with all othir noblez that attend apou your Grace. After whiche words hir Grace enclyned hir toward the Maier and with a cherefull countenaunce thanked hym, his Brethir and all the Citie. And then it was ordered by the said lord Tresorer of England the Maier to ryde next tofore hir chare betwix the sergiaunts of armez barehede to bere the mace unto she come at hir loigyng, and the Aldermen to ryde tofore hir Grace next after the Knyghts and tofore the Barons, and soo they attended apou hir Grace to she was taken furth of hir said chare at the west end of the Cathedrall Church of Saynt Peter of York. And within the doore of the said Church Tharchebischop of York, the Bischop of Dorham, Thabbot of Saynt Marie Abbey, the Bischop Sofregayne of York, in theyr (*fo. 6b*) pontificall adornaments with all the prelats and mynestrez of the said Church mett hir Grace with procession and she humbly knelyng doune and makyng hir prayers the said Bischop assenced hir and then she kyssyng certan reliquez rose and went upp toward the hy awter, the ministrez of the Chirche singing this anthem . . .¹ and then hir Grace knelyng tofore the hye alter after hir prayers offered unto the sacrament and after to Saynt William hede; and then she went furth on the north syde of the said chaunsell and chirche at a doore anenst the Chapitre house and so entered to the bischopz palece, the Archebischop with his crosse and cruche,² and the Bischop of Dorham with his cruche in gray amysez. And the Maier goyng betwix the sergiaunts of armez bare the mace tofore hir to she come unto hir chambre and then takyn his leve she cherefully thankyng hym departed. And then the Maier shewed the said lord Tresorer howe that he and his brethir after theyr powers intendeth to present hir Grace prayeng hym to lett theym knawe what tyme it war most pleasaunt to hir Grace they schuld attend apou hir Grace with theyr said present. And he schewid theym, on the morn betwix viij and ix of the klok, and so they departed from hym and went into the mynster yerde and there the Maier, his Brethir, the Recorder and Shireffs toke theyr horsez and so havyng the swerde born tofore hym, his

¹ blank.² cruche; crosier.

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officers goyng on fote come ridyng unto his awn place and after he and they on horsbak had dronken both wyne and ale departed. And on the morn after betwix viij and ix of the klok assembled at Saynt Peter Mynster, and there one of the Chamberleyns bringyng a goodly standyng silver pece covered and well over gilt with a fane¹ of the armez of this Citie apou the same pece, whiche pece was valowid to the some of xij^{li} xvj^s, and an hundreth aungells of gold amountyng to xxxiiij^{li} vj^s viij^d putt in the said pece, the Maier, the Recorder with hym, Thaldermen in scarlett, the Shireffs and xxiiij in cremysyn, the chefe Chamberleyn beryng the said pece and gold, went into the bishops palece and entred into the secund chambre of the said Princes; and there tarieng a lityll space hir grace come furth of an yndre chambre and standyng under the cloth of astate at hir bede fete the Maier takyng the said pece with gold of the Chamberleyn, the Recorder, Aldermen, Shireffs and xxiiij kneled down, the Recorder sayng these words; most noble and excellent Princes and Quene, the Maier, his Brethir and all the Commonaltie of this poure Citie presentith your most noble grace this gilted pece with an hundreth aungels with all theyr herts and service to theyr powers with theyr fre herts and good wills to your most noble grace and to your gret comforth (*fo. 7*) of your noble mariage. The Maier proferid hir grace the said pece with gold, and she with a glad and cherefull countenaunce hertely thanked hym, his brethir with all the body of this said Citie and commaunded the Lord Tresorer to take the said pece and gold. And so went forward unto the said Cathedrall Chirche, the said Archebisshop and othir bishops and lordez and noblez tofore hir in order accordyng, the Maier bering the mace betwix two sergiaunts of armez next tofore hir unto she come into the travesse² and there she tarieng to holy water was kest; the Archebisshop reuest hym to doo masse and observaunce; and so hir grace went procession the Maier bering the mace as is aforesaid; and after procession it was commoned emong the people that the Archebisshop³ that same day wold be stalled, whiche tofore was unknownn to the people; and so he was in dede in the Tresorers place, the Maier nor his Brethir ne none othir honest of this Citie beyng thereat, and right fewe othir noblez that was there present with the Qwene. And the Qwene hering the said masse of stallacion offered; and after masse went into the bishops palece to hir diner, the Maier bering the mace as is aforesaid to she come into hir chambre and then departed unto the monday at morn. And so the same monday about xij of the klok hir grace toke hir chare to goo on hir viage that nyght to Neweburgh. And soo the crafts standyng in theyr aray from the Mynster Yate to Bowthome barr the Maier and his Brethir ridyng in lyke order as they dyd at hir entre the Shireffs bering theyr rodde roode furth at the said barre

¹ a Fane; a flag.² Traverse; way across.³ Thomas Savage.

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tofore hir grace unto they come to the farrest of the libertiez of this Citie at Mawdeleyn chapell toward Clifton, and there the Maier askyng licence of hir to departe, sayng these words: Most noble and excellent Princes and Qwene I and my Brethir with all the Commonaltie of this Citie shall pray for your most noble triumphe and prosperite in your most noble mariage that it myght be to the pleasour of God and to the gret comforth of your most noble fader the Kyng Henre and to your most noble herts ease and to the comon well of all the realme of England and your most noble grace long to endure to the pleasour of God. And hir grace hertely thanked hym, his Brethir and all the Commonaltie of this Citie with a cherefull and goodly countenance sayng; my lord Maier and your Brethir and all the hole Citie of York I thanke you hertely of your gret kyndenes and your gret present whiche with Goddes grace I schall ever indeavour me to love you and this Citie the dayes of my liff and I schall schewe to the Kyngs Grace my fader the gret kyndenes that ye have doon to me at this tyme with goddes grace. And in theyr ridyng furth with (*fo. 7b*) the said Quenez grace without Bowthome barr Sir William Conyers then beyng Shireff of York Shire, anenst Saynt Maregate end began to bere up his rodde tofore the Quene, and the Maier said unto hym Maister Shyreff, ye aght to bere no rodde here as yit; and the said Sir William aunswerd and said—it was within his office and he wold bere it; and then the Maier answerd and said—it was within the libertez of this Citie and he dyd wrong to bere any there and were not for the displeasour of the Quenez grace there present he schuld cause many to speke therof or he bare any there. And the Lord Tresorer heryng these words and langagez emong theym commaunded theym to sesse and said unto the said Sir William: Sir Shireff, putt down your rodde, ye do wrong to bere any within the libertiez of this Citie and then the said Sir William held down his rodde on lowe endelong by his horse syde unto he come beyonde Mawdeleyn chapell without the libertiez of this Citie, and then and there he toke up his rodde sayng, now Shireffs hold down your rodde for it is within myn office; and they said so they wold and bad God spede hym. And so the Maier his Brethir, the Recorder and the Shireffs, the officers on fote and the swerd born tofore the Maier come on ridyng unto the maiers place and there on horsbak drank both ale and wyne and departed.¹

*fo. 8.***Alderman Fined.**

21 September 19 Henry VII 7 (1503). *Present*—Sir John

¹ This account of the coming of Princess Margaret to York has never been printed before. Drake made extracts from it in his *Eboracum* and Robert Davies has made use of it for his article, "*Margaret Tudor at York*" in the *Yorkshire Archaeological Journal*, vol. vii, pp. 304-329. Another contemporary account of the visit is that of John Young, *Somerset Herald*, printed in Leland's *Collectanea*.

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Giliot Mayor, The Recorder, 10 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 14 of the xxiv.

My lord Maier sent Humfre Maners, mace berer, unto Maister William Chymney, Alderman, commaundyng hym apon payn of x^{li} to come and doo his attendaunce accordyng to his duete, whiche Humfre come and schewid that he was so deseased he myght not come, wherfore he desyred my lord Maier and the said presence rewle hym as they wold. After whiche schewyng it was determyned that for his disobesiaunce at this tyme and all othir offensez this yere tofore and in especiall at the comyng of the Qwene of Scotts he shuld pay unto the comon well of this Citie x^{li}.

fo. 8b. **Opening of Common Land. Guldhall ceiling.**

27 September 19 Henry VII (1503). *Present*—Sir John Gilliot, Mayor and 18 others.

As well Tangfeld closez as all other closez about this Citie whiche of right awe to be openyd apon Michelmes day next to be laid open and soo kept unto our Lady day annunciacion and the maier's sergiaunts apon Michelmes day next to go and see the said closez sett open.

One Sir Robert Crofft, chapleyn to Maister William Chymney come tofore the said presence and schewed his maister had not money redy within hym to pay the x^{li} toforesaid.

It was agreed that Maister Thomas Jameson, Alderman, toward the selyng of the comon hall schuld deliver xx wayn scotts, and my lord Maier for John Dogeson to delyver xl wayn scotts toward the said selyng accordyng unto an act maid in the tyme of Maister John Metcalfe concernyng the same.

fo. 10. **Assaults. Petition to refound a Chantry.**
 M.P.'s chosen.

18 December 19 Henry VII (1503). *Present*—Sir John Gilliot, Mayor, The Recorder, 10 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 11 of the xxiv.

My lord Maier schewed that whereas Henre Ughtred, esquier, and his servaunts of late maid a riot on George Barbour, the maiers sergiaunt, at one tyme and after that another tyme one Gossell, servaunt unto the said Henre maid assaut and affray apon the same George and hym sore hurt and mayhemyd; it was determyned that my lord Maier at the next sessions of peas schall enquere as well of the said Henre and his servaunts as of all othir that wer favorable or aydyng theym.

Item the parochianz of Saynt Nicholes in Mekilgate putt in a bill of peticion for the reformation of a chaunterie in the said Kyrke called Eschton chaunterie. It was determyned that the said lands and tenementez schuld be viewed and serched by such

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persons as my lord Maier schall assigne of the comon Counsell and they to examyne the said lands in whose hands they ar and the valowe therof.

Item the Kyngs writte of Parliament to be holden at Westminster the xxvth day of Januare next was openly redde; and after they elect and chose the right wurshipfull Maister William Neleson and Maister Richard Thornton, Aldermen, to be knyghts and burgez for this Citie at the said Parliament.

fo. 10b.

Fishgarths to be viewed.

11 January 19 Henry VII (1503-4).

It was determyned that every Maier of this Citie that heraftre schalbe yerely betwix Pasche and Whitsonday in his awn person or the Recorder for the tyme beyng with an Alderman or two associatt to theym or to athir of theym to take viewe and make serche of almaner fysche garthez in the waters of Ouse, Derwent, Wherff, Ayer and Done accordyng unto the Kyngs commision of the fysche garthez graunted unto this Citie and the namez of all such awners and occupyers to present unto the Kyngs benche within ij monethez.

fo. 10b.

Riotous behaviour of the Commons.

St. Mary day. 15 January 19 Henry VII (1503-4). *Present*—Sir John Gilliot, Mayor, The Recorder, 11 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 16 of the xxiv.

Assembled in the Counsell Chambre within the Comon Hall the Commons putt in a bill of diverse articlez and all such as stood with the common lawe the said presence affermed and the other denied. And the Commons assembled to a gret nombre wold not procede to any eleccion unto tyme the Maier and presence graunted theym all theyr askyngs and desyrez; and also of theyr furiose mynds caused theym to put the seal (*fo. 11*) of office of Marialtie unto the said paupir bill; and thei kept the Maier and Counsell within the Common Hall unto vj of the klok at nyght and then they putt a bill of officers that is to say Thos Jameson, Alan Stavely and John Byrkhed, and the Maier and Comon Counsell elect the right wurshipfull Sir, Thos Jameson to be Maier of this Citie for the yere next ensuyng the fest of Saynt Blase next comyng

fo. 11b.

Yesterday's riot.

16 January 19 Henry VII (1503-4). *Present*—Sir John Gilliot, Mayor, The Recorder, 11 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 16 of the xxiv.

Assembled in the Counseill Chambre opon Ouse brigge it was commoned that wher yesterday the serchours and Comons in in the Comon Hall assembled for the eleccion of the Maier the said

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sercheours and Comons put in a paupir bill unto my Lord and Comon Counseill with many articulez comprised in the same sayng thai wold hold non accompts ne procede to any eleccion of the Maier unto tyme theyr bill wer graunted and affirmed sayng and manaced that the Maier and Comon Counseill shuld not come furth of the Comon Hall unto thei have graunted and sealed the bill; and so assembled to the nombre of iij^m persons, keped the Maier and Comon Counseill within the Comon Hall to within nyght that the Maier had graunted, affirmed and sealed the said paupir bill with the seale of office of marialtie.

After it was agreed that as many of suche persons as ar named in a bill this day by the said presence severally examyned as my lord Maier that is and that shalbe and the Recorder thynketh most expedient to be sent for by prive seale of the common cost and the iiij^{li} in the Maier and Chamberlayns hands upon theyr last accompts to be delyvered to the same.

fo. 12.

Further disorders.

St Blase Day 19 Henry VII (1503-4). *Present*—Thomas Jameson, Mayor, 9 Aldermen, 2 Sheriffs, 14 of the xxiv.

Assembled in the Counseill Chambre within the Comon Hall the right wurshipfull Sir, Thomas Jameson, which on Saynt Maury day last past was elect Maier, this day toke his othe accustomed to the office of maryaltie and after that Thaldermen and Comon Counseill ther present maid theyr othez accustomed and then the Comon clerk, the maier esquyers, comon sergiauntez toke theyr othez, and after the othe of the Comons was openly rede unto theym and right fewe of theym held up theyr hands, bot when the Maier, his Brether and Comon Counsell shuld have departed furth of the Comon Hall unto theyr dyner diverse riotouse personsez went unto the Comon Hall dore and shyte it and kept it stoken unto the tyme the Maier of newe sworne had sett his signett unto theyr paupir bill of diverse articulez presented on Saynt Maury Day last.

fo. 12b.

The King sends for certain of the rioters.

5 February 19 Henry VII (1503-4). *Present*—Thomas Jameson, Mayor, 9 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 14 of the xxiv.

My lord Maier shewed howe that yesterday in the Mynster a messenger of the Kyng, called Hamez, come unto hym and delivered hym a bill of certan namez comprised in iij lettrez of private sealez to the nombre of xvj personez for the gret riot comyt on Saynt Maury day last past, whiche namez were rede and after it was agreed that the said messenger shuld be sent for and an officer to go with hym and se the delivere of the said prive sealez and shew hym that my lord Maier and his Brether and

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Comon Counseill will ayde and assist hym about the same. And after it was agreed that the said messynger shall have in reward xx^s

Thes ar the namez of such persons as wer riotously disposed on Saynt Blase day as it was thought by the said presence that is to say George Wright, couke, Johannes Fleshewer, fysher, Johannes Dawson, hatmaker, Ric. Heshilwod, yoman, . . . with many other, which shyte the dore upon my lord Maier, his Brether and bare theym bakward unto the over end of the Comon Hall and ther kept theym unto the Maier had set his signet to the paupir bill whiche the Comons presented on Saynt Maury day and causyd hym to promyse theym to kepe the articulez in the said bill ferme and stable or thei wald open the dore.

fo. 13. **Letter from the rioters who have been sent to London.**

6 March 19 Henry VII (1503-4). *Present*—Thomas Jameson, Mayor, 8 of the xij, 2 Sheriffs, 13 of the xxiv.

My lord Maier shewed how that the day next tofore Robert Skipton, Maister of the Taillours, George Lokrygge, Maister of the Wevers [and many others]¹ presented unto my lord Maier in the Counseill Chambre upon Ouse brige a copy of a letter late sent from the Commons of this Citie beyng at London by prevey sealez unto the sersours and commoners of this Citie as appereth in the same.

Right wurshipfull Maisters and serssours of all the crafts and to all other of the Comminaltie of the same we that be your poure neyghbours and beyng above by the Kyngs grace commaundement for to answer to gret surmysez laid both to you and us all as shall appere more playnly to you hereafter by the tenour of this same letter we all and every of us recomends us to you all in generall desiryng to here of your welfarez all and of your good demeanour for yowrye all dischargs and ours that been nowe above by the Kyngs Grace commaundement. This is the intent of all our mynds to writte to you at this tyme; trewly we have appered all byfore Maister Mordant accordyng to our prive selez and apperaunce recorded and had a copy of the bill whiche was laid agayn you all and us of gret misdemeanour maid by us all as in disobeyng the Maier at his eleccion, and to that same we have maid answer by the advice of our lernyd counseill, and after our answeere maid a sergiant of armys dismysed us from byfore Maister Mordaunt and commanded us to appere afore the lord Chaunceller and the lord Archbisshop of York and to have the examynacion of us all and to peruse our bouks all over. And so we were afore thayme in the Counseill Chambre the first day and ther the Chaunceller commaunded one of his clerkes to examyn everyche one of us severally

¹ Belonging to many different crafts.

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by ourself and so we have don. And at that same day the lord Archbischoffe with the Recorder, Sir John Gilliot, Maister Neleson and Maister Thornton ther laid a more grevous bill to all our chargs and yours shewyng the gret disdemeanours in takyng of our othes as we in disobeyng the Kyngs good grace as the Maier and in provyng the same the Maier (*fo.* 13b) nowe with all his Brethern hath certified the same under the maiers seale of office. And at the same secund day we leid in by our counseill certayn articulez concernyng the hool Comon well of the Citie, whiche at the makyng of this letter was not answerd and therfor Maisteris that been serssours of all craffts and all the Comonaltie seen that we knawe not the verray tyme of our departyng and moreover the gret dayly costs and chargs to us of our lerned counseill with many other to us gret chargez and importennet. Therfor we and every of us prayes you to remembre us now as well as ye did at our departyng and to be of good demeanour anenst the Maier and his Brether and we recomend us to all the serssours of all crafftes and all the Comoners in generall as we trust to Jesu he doth who kep you.

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